FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 SEPTEMBER 1985

Jordan: Thatcher Visit

Any parties to a dispute ought to be parties to its resolution, thus opening the way for the PLO's participation in the peace process, King Husayn stressed during remarks broadcast by Amman television at a dinner for visiting British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Husayn also said peace negotiations should be held under the aegis of an international conference in which the five permanent members of the UN Security Council would participate along with parties to the dispute. He said these two principles have been "passed over or deliberately ignored," resulting in "unnecessary complication and waste of time." Noting "terror practices" by settlers and "fanatics" against Arabs, Husayn condemned Israeli occupation of the West Bank. Responding to the king's dinner remarks, Thatcher said the opportunity for peace in the Middle East must be grasped before the end of this year, and Britain is ready to help create the "right circumstances" for peaceful negotiations. Emphasizing that peace will not come through violence and terrorism, Thatcher said a "climate of greater confidence" is necessary so that all parties will be prepared to take some risks for peace. The prime minister called for a settlement which commands "overwhelming acceptance" because it is negotiated by "trusted representatives of all those involved."

Britain will supply Jordan with military equipment worth 270 million pounds, Amman radio reported, citing a memorandum signed 19 September in the presence of Thatcher and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i.

Earlier, Thatcher concluded her visit to Egypt and told MENA her talks with President Husni Mubarak were "useful, frank, and constructive." Reacting to Thatcher's remarks about the possible participation of certain PLO members in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, Cairo radio said the prime minister has "spelled out her stand" to U.S. allies and obstacles raised by those who have "special interests in obstructing the peace process" are no longer justified. Meanwhile, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio castigated Thatcher for talking "ambiguously" about a settlement that will enable the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights.

Israel

The Alignment-Likud deadlock over the Tabah issue continued during the 18 September Inner Cabinet meeting, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that the Likud ministers rejected the proposals on the issue worked out with Egyptian President Mubarak. The Likud ministers continue to insist on trying to solve the dispute through conciliation while the Alignment is supporting the proposal to try conciliation for a limited period and then submit the dispute to binding arbitration if conciliation fails, Jerusalem television said. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin subsequently told Jerusalem radio that he cannot foresee the Alignment remaining in the current government another 3 years if all chances of improving peace with Egypt or seeking peace possibilities along Israel's eastern front are frozen.

Israel has given the United States confidential information proving "beyond a shadow of doubt" that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is personally involved in planning terrorist attacks, according to Jerusalem radio.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi troops attacked and occupied three "extremely important" vantage points on Iraq's northeastern border the night of 17 September, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio reported. Meanwhile, IRNA reported that Iraqi planes and artillery bombarded Iranian border villages in the Bostan area 18 September. The Iranian ground forces commander warned Iraq in a statement cited by IRNA that Iran will retaliate if Iraq resumes its attacks on Iranian cities.

In Kuwait, the daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* commented on the recent landing in Israel of a U.S. cargo plane travelling from Iran to Spain, asserting that the incident points to a "tacit pact" among the United States, Iran, Israel, and Turkey, KUNA reported. Contending that the aircraft may be part of a "secret air bridge" to Iran, the paper said this "scandalous trip" has exposed the "dirty role" of the United States in the Gulf war.

Iran

A time bomb exploded near a bus terminal in western Tehran, killing a child and wounding 18 other people, IRNA disclosed.

GCC Interior Ministers Meeting

The GCC interior ministers affirmed their determination to collectively resist all threats to the security and stability of the region, based on the GCC's stand which considers any threat against any GCC state a threat against all, according to a press statement issued by the ministers and carried by SPA following their fourth meeting in Riyadh.

Lebanon

As fighting continued in Tripoli between gunmen of the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party, security sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon estimated that the total number of casualties in the fighting since 15 September was 80 dead and over 250 wounded. Meanwhile, IDF radio reported ASL soldiers firing at and blowing up a booby-prapped car south of Tyre.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will visit Moscow "shortly," according to a KUNA report citing Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki's remarks to the London magazine *AL-TADAMUN*. Monitored Libyan and Soviet media have not been observed to announce such a visit.

Afghanistan

More than 2,000 rebels were "crushed" and their "satanic nests" were destroyed by DRA forces during recent operations in Khowst, Kabul radio announced.

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PLO Official Urges More Active British Role

JN180705 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 85 pp 1, 5

[Text] Amman — A senior official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) urged Britain on Monday to take the initiative to reactivate the stalled peace process in the Middle East by receiving a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and supporting the Jordanian-Palestinian call for an international peace conference.

PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad said Britain "could and should, taking into consideration its strong influence on the American administration, reactivate the Middle East peace process by endorsing a clearer and more supportive position towards the joint Jordanian-Palestinian efforts to find a just and durable peaceful settlement to the Palestinian question."

The PLO official's call came on the eve of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's scheduled visit to Jordan which begins today. In an interview last week Mrs. Thatcher said she would discuss with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn the reasons behind "the slowdown" in the peace process in the Middle East.

The peace process is currently deadlocked due to American failure to meet with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, of which the Palestinian side was chosen by the PLO. Washington refuses to talk to the PLO unless the organisation recognised Israel.

"The ball is still in the American court," Mr. Ahmad told the *JORDAN TIMES*, "but we believe that Britain is the single most important European country that could exert real influence on the American administration."

Mr. Ahmad said it was high time for Britain to assume "its historical responsibility towards the Palestinian people since it contributed to the creation of the state of Israel in Palestine."

He was referring to a promise made to the Zionists by then British foreign minister, Lord Balfour, in 1917, that Britain, which had a mandate on Palestine then, would help create a Jewish state in Palestine.

Mr. Ahmad summed up a more active British role in the peace process, as envisaged by the PLO, to include launching efforts towards a unified European position to influence the American stand. Accepting to receive a joint Jordanian-PLO delegation in London and expressing support for an international peace conference under the auspices of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

Britain's most notable "active involvement" in the search for peace in the Middle East was in 1967 when it contributed to the formulation of U.N. Resolution 242 which calls for exchanging Israeli-occupied Arab territories for peace.

The U.S. has repeatedly linked its readiness to recognise the PLO with the organisation's acceptance of Resolution 242. But the PLO refuses to accept the resolution on its own.

"We cannot possibly accept U.N. Resolution 242 on its own because it refers to the Palestinians as refugees and denies them their right to self-determination." Mr. Ahmad said. But the PLO official said Britain could help everybody overcome the impasse over 242 by formulating, in its capacity as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, "a new resolution which recognises the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination."

Mr. Ahmad indicated that an amendment of 242 might not be feasible but that what is needed is a new resolution which "includes all the necessary elements for a just and durable solution for the Palestinian question."

The British government avoids top-level official contacts with the PLO and does not recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Although Mrs. Thatcher has indicated that there should be a role to the PLO in the peace process.

But in an interview with the semi-official Egyptian newspaper last week, Mrs. Thatcher urged the PLO to "abandon terrorism" and said that this was a precondition for direct Middle East talks.

PLO Radio Comments on Thatcher Visit to Region

JN181839 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1702 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to Cairo and Amman is starting renewed talk about the peace process in the Middle East. We can always say that any talk about peace during visits such as Thatcher's is merely a cover for other things sought by the visitor, such as arms packages, trade agreements, and so on. If the meetings do not change that talk and if agreements are concluded as separate items, the visitor will certainly be the winner. He will return to his country with these agreements, while we remain with our problem in our region. The visitor cannot be blamed for such results. We may not have the right to blame Thatcher, Murphy, the British Government, or the U.S. Administration for not showing sufficient and appropriate enthusiasm for the peace process. We should certainly blame oursleves for others' positions and for the losing agreements we usually conclude with them.

The Arab capitals constitute a suitable market, and visitors can usually sell anything there without being obliged to buy anything. These visitors often receive the price in advance. We are a suitable market even for things that we do not need. We allow Thatcher, for example, to come to our houses and talk to us ambiguously about a settlement that will enable the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights. At the same time, she refuses to talk to a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. For only talking with the PLO within a joint delegation, Thatcher asks the PLO to recognize Israel and abandon what the British prime minister calls terrorism. What makes Thatcher consider herself at home in our countries? What prompts her to set all these conditions to the Arabs and the Palestinians? What enables Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for our affairs, to come to the region, tour it, and return to his country after announcing:

We could not reach agreement on the Palestinians' names in the joint delegation.

We should not discuss the causes that prompt Britain and the United States to set their conditions in Washington or London. This is a U.S. and a British habit only because we allow them to adopt it. Washington and London do not ask Israel to recognize the Palestinians' rights as a condition for talking to them. They also do not ask Israel to abandon occupation, expansion, or terrorism against our people and the region's peoples. Instead the United States uses the veto to prevent the Security Council from urging Israel to stop the policy of detention and deportation in the West Bank and Gaza. Britain also abstains to guarantee the effectiveness of Washington's veto in favor of Israel.

Britain is an important factor in the peace process in the Middle East. The United States also carries weight in this process, but unfortunately the Arab capitals constitute a suitable market, and consequently it has no weight and its words on the peace process are not respected.

PNC Speaker Attacks Israeli Deportation Policy

JN171900 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has accused Israel of attempting to deport Palestinian leaders from the occupied territories in order to facilitate annexing those territories. Shykh al-Sa'ih described as illegal the expelling of 18 Palestinians, formerly detained in Israeli prisons, from the occupied territories.

According to authorized Jordanian sources, from 1967 to 1983 the Israeli authorities deported 2,015 Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza.

PLO Claims 30 Israelis Killed in Lebanon Attack

JN181911 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] A hero from the Palestinian-Lebanese national joint forces carried out a daring operation yesterday when he rammed with a booby-trapped car a military position held jointly by the Zionist occupation forces and their agent militias in Tallat 'Alman in southern Lebanon. The position was completely destroyed, and about 30 Zionist soldiers and a number of agent soldiers were killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation. However, he said that Zionist forces immediately besieged the area and opened artillery fire at a number of villages in southern Lebanon.

Fatah's Al-Hasan on Ties With Syria, Libya, USSR

GF151512 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 15 Sep 85 p 6

[Interview with Khalid al-Hasan, chairman of the PNC Foreign Relations Committee and member of the Fatah Central Committee, by an unidentified *AL-ITTIHAD* correspondent in Ottawa during the September IPU meetings]

[Excerpt] [Correspondent] What about Syrian-Palestinian relations? Do you forsee a normalization of these relations?

[Al-Hasan] This is up to Syria. The moment Syria agrees to normalize relations with the PLO, the PLO will be ready, because we in the PLO are convinced of the need for Arab solidarity. We are not pleased at all to see Syria outside the framework of Arab solidarity or to see differences between Syria and us, between Syria and Iraq, or between Syria and Jordan.

Therefore, because we believe that Arab solidarity is indispensable, we are concerned about Syria's interests, just as we are concerned about the interests of any other Arab country. In addition, Syria, from the geographical and popular points of view, is of special importance to the Palestinian struggle. Consequently, the key to normalizing PLO-Syrian relations, Jordanian-Syrian relations, and Iraqi-Syrian relations is in Syria's hands. If it decides to normalize relations, it can do so. If not, the results will not be those for which everyone sincere about Arab solidarity, Arab unity, and the revival of Arab struggle desires.

[Correspondent] What about the PLO's relations with Libya? Is there anything new following Faruq Qaddumi's recent visit to Libya?

[Al-Hasan] There is nothing new. However, what I have said about Syria applies to Libya.

[Correspondent] Do you expect a change in the Soviet stand toward the Palestinian issue, after the so-called young leaders assumed power in the USSR?

[Al-Hasan] If you mean a strategic change, this will not take place, because this country does not change its strategy when its leaders change as is the case in the Arab world, which is passing through a painful and hateful period. The USSR's strategy changes when its interests change, and such a change will not take place quickly. Perhaps the influence of the young leaders will revamp the leadership as a whole, and this will be satisfactory to us.

KUWAIT

Weinberger Cited on Soviet Use of Western Tech

LD182021 Kuwait KUNA in English 1911 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Washington, Sept 18 (KUNA) — U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger claimed Wednesday that the Soviet Union is using Western high technology on a mammoth scale to improve its weaponry, and he called it "a far more serious problem than we had previously realized." Weinberger released an interagency report on the problem, dealing with both legal and illegal activities by the Soviets in this country to acquire advanced technology.

According to the report, more than 5,000 Soviet military research projects each year are benefiting "significantly" from Western-acquired technology. Weinberger said that 27 per cent of these were projects "where the research stages were eliminated or the time to develop (?the) weapon system was materially shortened."

"What it really means is that we are subsidizing the military buildup of the Soviet Union, and the costs have, of course, been staggering," the secretary said.

By systematically acquiring Western secrets from high-tech manufacturers, research centers, universities and defense contractors, "the Soviets are advancing some of their military programs by several years and saving themselves several thousands, tens of thousands, of man-years of scientific research each year," Weinberger claimed. "At the same time," he added, "they're requiring us to spend far more for our own defense than would otherwise be the case."

The report is the product of a government-wide effort involving some 22 agencies. It contains information Weinberger said was "sensitive" but had been declassified.

Oil Minister Denies Split in OPEC

GF181243 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Sep (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Minister of Oil and Industry Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah has stressed that the establishment of regional oil organizations do not represent divisions inside OPEC. In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* published today, the Kuwaiti minister said that the information of regional oil organizations in Africa or anywhere else does not clash with OPEC and do not necessarily represent any form of split inside it. He added that these organizations have nothing to do with the setting of prices and production levels, adding that such regional organizations already exist for marketing oil products and for entering into joint oil ventures. He affirmed that Kuwait will not allow its clients to resell its oil on the free market, because it only sells its oil to clients who have refineries, or to refineries inside Kuwait or abroad.

Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah announced that a specialized committee will be formed to carry out a comprehensive assessment of the Kuwaiti Petroleum Company in order to compare it with other similar petroleum companies and to raise its efficiency.

Paper Speculates on U.S.-Israel-Iran-Turkey Pact

LD180944 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0711 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Sep (KUNA) — In its leader today, *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* links the mysterious landing of the American aircraft — which took off from Iran a few days ago — at one of the Israeli airports after flying through Turkish airspace, with the existance of a tacit pact among the United States, Iran, Israel, and Turkey. The article stresses that the landing, contrary to the announcements, was not necessary.

The newspaper asked a number of questions about the mysterious mission of that American aircraft in Tehran: What did the giant cargo plane deliver; why did it land in Israel; and how did Turkey get involved in this mysterious mission of an American military aircraft?

It said: "This does not fall within the scope of predictions and assumptions. The aim is clear, and the mission is obvious. All the roles of the four heros [as received] have been agreed upon and coordination is absolutely complete." It pointed out that this matter "falls within the scope of arms deals. This aircraft had possibly arrived as part of a secret air bridge that is continuing whether the radar screens record it or deliberately close their eyes to it."

It drew attention to the fact that "this scandalous trip has exposed the dirty role pursued by the United States in the question of the Gulf war, because its calls to stop the war are false and its calls for peace are a provocation and a sham." It took the United States to task for demanding a halt to the war while providing the combatants with weapons. It said: "Its alleged hostility to Iran is exposed as a trick and obvious deception."

QATAR

Paper Discusses Thatcher's Visit to Egypt

GF181724 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 18 Sep (WAKH) — On British Prime Minister Mrs. Margaret Thatcher's visit to Egypt, Qatari English-language daily *GULF TIMES* said, Thatcher's statement in Cairo yesterday raises no hopes for the Arabs since she rejects the idea of an international conference to solve the Palestinian problem. The paper in its today's editorial said, "it is essential that the Palestinian issue is considered under the umbrella of the United Nations with all parties concerned participating including the PLO as the recongnised leader of the Palestinian people.

GULF TIMES regretted that Mrs. Thatcher still sticks to her view that the PLO leaders are terrorists when it is clear that they are only struggling to liberate their people and their land from the Zionist enemy. It is disappointing that she is unwilling to receive those heroes and she can afford to adopt a policy if it has the approval of the White House since she has had nothing to fear from the Arabs, no real pressure to make here reassess her

Middle East policies, the paper said. *GULF TIMES* noted that one would expect Mrs. Thatcher to at least adopt a neutral stance instead of supporting Israel directly and indirectly and concluded that her visits to Cairo and Amman are of no value to the Arabs.

SAUDI ARABIA

GCC Interior Ministers Gather in Riyadh

Session Opens

LD171023 Kuwait KUNA in English 0902 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Riyadh, Sept 17 (KUNA) — Interior ministers in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Tuesday began meetings of their fourth session at the GCC General Secretariat. Interior ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the UAE, Qatar and Oman will review over two days agenda items prepared by a meeting here over the past three days by their undersecretaries. These include questions of security cooperation and coordination among the six states as well as issuance of a standard Gulf passport.

In an opening address, Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad interior minister of Kuwait, which is current GCC chairman, called attention to latest terrorist acts witnessed by the area, unprecedented and alien in their nature, aimed at undermining the countries' sovereignty and subjugating their will to certain inclinations inconsistent with the ultimate national interest. The Kuwaiti official also underlined the seriousness of these terrorist acts which are restrained by no ethics and exclude no state, urging collective measures to fight terrorism.

Shaykh Nawwaf hoped that results of the meeting would would be at the level of the delicate circumstances passed by the region and recommended dependence on indigenous potentials and capabilities to secure safety and stability of the GCC states and people. Following similar speeches made by GCC secretary general and the Saudi interior minister, the conference met behind closed doors.

[Riyadh SPA in Arabic at 1150 GMT on 17 September adds the following:The GCC interior ministers concluded at 1400 the first session of their meeting which began today at the GCC General Secretariat Headquarters in Riyadh.]

Evening Session

LD172111 Kuwait KUNA in English 1829 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Riyadh, Sept 17 (KUNA) — The Gulf Cooperation Council Interior Ministers opened their evening session here Tuesday under chairmanship of Kuwait's Interior Minister Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad. The session was restricted to the interior ministers only in addition to GCC Secretary General Abdullah Bisharah and his assistant for political affairs Ibrahim al-Sobhi. The ministers will resume deliberations of the agenda on means of coordinating and bolstering security cooperation among member countries. The ministers had held side meetings before the session to exchange views on various agenda items.

Shaykh Nawwaf received his Bahraini counterpart shaykh muhammad Al-Khalifah and later Abdullah Bisharah. The minister and the accompanying delegation visited Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz shortly before opening of the second session of their conference which opened here earlier today.

Evening Meeting Closes

GF171936 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Sep (SPA) — The GCC interior ministers have concluded their second meeting which began this evening. In a statement following the meeting, Interior Minister His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that the meeting was held in a fraternal spirit. His royal highness said that the meeting discussed a number of questions on the agenda and that a press statement will be issued tomorrow after the final session to elaborate on the resolutions agreed upon during the meetings of the GCC interior ministers.

Ministers Resume Sessions

GF181044 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The GCC interior ministers resumed their conference at the GCC Secretariat today. Earlier, the ministers held a closed session restricted to the ministers, during which they discussed matters related to the security strategy of the GCC countries. At its conclusion, the conference will issue a press statement that will include the resolutions and recommendations of the GCC ministers.

Cabinet Reviews Jordanian-Syrian Talks Results

GF180925 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz chaired the cabinet meeting held last night, Saturday, 3 Muharram 1406 hegira. Following the meeting, Ibrahim al-'Anqari, minister of municipal and rural affairs and acting information minister, made a statement to media representatives in which he said that at the beginning of the meeting King Fahd briefed the cabinet on the good office initiatives that Saudi Arabia has begun in order to clear Arab differences and the great efforts that His Majesty has been making toward the unity of Arab ranks and in order to hold the Arab summit conference in a climate of amity and unity of ranks.

The cabinet listened to a report by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, on the efforts of the committee that he chairs and in which the Tunisian prime minister and the Arab League secretary general participated. He referred to the meetings he held with the brothers in Syria, Jordan, and Iraq. He extolled the sincere and true spirit shown by the leaders of these fraternal countries toward arab progress and for the sake of a united stand vis-a-vis the challenges which the Arab and Islamic nations are facing.

The acting information minister added that the cabinet discussed the results of the constructive meeting which was chaired and patronized by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in Jeddah on the night before and which was attended by Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi; the crown prince; the second deputy prime minister; and the foreign minister. The meeting was of paramount importance in arriving at good results which are bound to please every Arab and Muslim. The meeting, which was patronized by King Fahd, was held in a fraternal and amiable climate, characterized by sincerity, frankness and positiveness. The cabinet expressed optimism and satisfaction with the results, which are an extension of the good offices and constructive efforts made by the king and the crown prince for the sake of unifying the ranks of the Arab nation. The cabinet then reviewed the statement announced yesterday and which was issued following the fraternal meetings patronized by King Fahd and attended by the crown prince. The cabinet expressed total satisfaction with the statement and considered it a good and encouraging beginning on the way to resolving Arab differences.

AL-YAWM on Kingdom's Role

GF180958 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 Sep 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The Jordanian-Syrian meeting ended in Jeddah yesterday. It was held under the patronage of Saudi Arabia, represented by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard. The newspaper *AL-YAWM* comments on this matter by saying: The agreement in principle between Jordan and Syria to restore normal relations is a step toward the comprehensive agreement that is expected to be reached during the meeting to be held between the two countries in October 1985, under the aegis of Saudi concern for clearing the Arab atmosphere and in implementation of the resolutions of the extraordinary Arab summit in Casablanca. The paper adds: No doubt any Arab agreement or rapprochement of Arab views is a noble aim that all sincere sons of this nation seek to achieve in a form that serves Arab interests and turns the scale of the balance of power among the world's countries in favor of the Arabs. These other countries have grown accustomed to seeing the Arabs divided and differing among themselves.

The paper emphasizes that by this preliminary agreement, Jordan and Syria have provided new proof of the concern of their leaders for Arab interests and their desire to preserve the pan-Arab and national gains of the Arabs. It is not in the interest of the Arabs for any dispute, however minor, to exist among any two Arab countries, neighbors or otherwise, particularly if these two countries are located on the line of fire with the tyrannical Israeli enemy. This is especially true in view of the fact that the possibility of their facing a direct threat is greater than that of any other Arab country. The paper asserts that the Saudi role has been clear in the achievement by these two countries of positive results during their meetings in Jeddah. The crown prince's presence during the meetings was effective. With wisdom and awareness, he directed the talks and imparted to them a special importance in the light of the standing that the Kingdom enjoys in the Arab and Islamic world, and in view of the crown prince's wellknown determination to bypass all differences in order to achieve noble pan-Arab aims.

Paper Says U.S. Dominated by Zionist Influence

PM171321 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 9 Sep 85 p 2

[Jasir Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir article: "Washington Speaks of the Possibility of Recognizing the PLO"]

[Text] Again there is much talk in the U.S. capital Washington about yet another Richard Murphy visit to the Middle East. Such talk is not confined to political circles. It has also been taken up by the information media, especially the U.S. press, which has repeatedly reported that the U.S. Government is considering sending U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy to the Middle East for a meeting with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation which would herald the beginning of a U.S.-Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. Such talk has increased in the past few days, since President Reagan received Murphy's report through Secretary of State George Shultz. Political observers in the U.S. capital believe that the U.S. Administration is now fully convinced that such talks would be useful, and they also believe that the purpose of Murphy's next visit will be to start a dialogue with the Palestinians through a joint delegation. Furthermore, *THE WASHINGTON TIMES* says that President Reagan's administration is studying a plan that would lead to U.S. recognition of the PLO. Apparently there is some truth in these reports. Let us just say that similar ideas are circulating in U.S. official political circles. That is why the Zionist entity's ambassador in Washington has rushed to the State Department in search of information. It seems that he received ambiguous answers from Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost, because the Zionist lobby and pressure groups are kicking up a storm to block the new U.S. move, which means that the new trend in the United States is not in harmony with Zionist wishes. Zionist circles are noticeably trying to drag the U.S. Administration into peripheral battles over such issues as the sale of arms to the Arab states. At any rate, whether Murphy goes to the Middle East or not, we cannot easily say that the U.S. Administration is capable of playing a clear and decisive role that would lead to U.S. recognition of the PLO as the U.S. press claims. Such a step, the U.S. press admits, would be a dramatic move that would considerably change the political conditions in the Middle East, particularly conditions related to the Palestinian question. The reason we do not agree with the U.S. press is simply that there are no signs or indications that there is such a new trend. The U.S. Administration is still captive to the traditional fears resulting from the clear effects of the Zionist ideology which is deeply rooted in U.S. high circles. Only when the U.S. Administration and other U.S. institutions such as Congress rid themselves of Zionist domination can we expect the United States to take right, serious, and realistic steps such as not only recognizing the PLO but also imposing a quick and just solution to the Palestinian question, which is the central issue in the Middle East.

U.S. Allegedly Proposes New Maneuvers, Incentives

PM171127 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 11 Sep 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egyptian-U.S. Talks for Holding New Joint Maneuvers"]

[Text] *AL-AHALI* has learned that negotiations are currently taking place in Cairo between a U.S. military delegation and some senior Egyptian officials regarding the possibility of making preparations for new joint military maneuvers similar to the "Bright Star 85" maneuvers which the U.S. forces and elements of the Egyptian forces completed a few weeks ago.

Egypt is currently considering the U.S. proposals regarding holding the new maneuvers in mid-December, in order to give further training for the so-called U.S. Rapid Deployment Force [RDF] that would enable them to carry out their tasks of intervention in and dealing with tension areas in the Middle East on the pretext that the present situation in the Middle East requires the U.S. forces to be ready for combat intervention.

The U.S. military delegation has told the Egyptian officials that Egypt's agreement to hold new joint maneuvers with the Americans would be reciprocated by additional military assistance in the form of an outright grant and by the U.S. Administration's agreement to reschedule part of the Egyptian military debt to allow its repayment after a period of up to 4 years' grace.

The U.S. delegation did not specify the additional aid or the amount of the military debt that would be rescheduled. Meanwhile an Egyptian committee has been set up to study the U.S. proposals to hold new military maneuvers on Egyptian territory in light of the incentives being offered. The Americans have been asked to specify the details of what is being offered so that the picture will be clearer when a decision is taken.

Mubarak Speaks at Rosetta National Day Celebration

NC181608 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1047 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Speech delivered by President Husni Mubarak at the Rosetta sports club conference hall on the occasion of Rosetta's national day — live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful and compasionate. Brother Citizens: Many happy returns of the day. I think that any governorate's celebration of a national day is a celebration for all Egyptians.

On our national days we recall historical events not in order to relive the glories of the past and remain lazy and indifferent, but in order to continue our drive toward a better life and to build the glories of the present, on the basis of patriotic sentiments that draw strength from the struggle of the people in the distant and in the near past. A nation that forgets its history is a nation without a present or future.

Today's anniversary falls at a time when Egypt's independent territory is free from coercion and imperialism, when Egypt's sovereign and pioneering decisions are made exclusively by its people, and when Egypt's role in weighty international issues is skillfully played and influential. [Applause] This anniversary falls at a time when the Egyptian people are exercising democratic rule under which human rights are respected, the liberties and sanctities guaranteed by the Constitution are protected, the present and future are ensured, and the right of the citizen to employment and a dignified life are safeguarded.

Democracy means freedom of the press, a true mirror of the society which shows its dreams and pains, speaks the truth, promotes national affiliation, and serves as an example of purity of intention and conscience. Democracy can only play a role if it can positively influence and develop the people's daily life so that they can enjoy confidence, assurance, and stability. It is a continuously forward-driving force. It is a continuously driving force for national action, to clear the air, and to approach problems seriously, scientifically, and industriously. These are self-evident truths which need no repetition, but I will not tire of repeating them for two reasons: The first is my intense desire for democracy to be practiced correctly to produce all the desired results; the second reason is what we notice — this is something natural in every society — of the existence of overt or covert opponents of democracy. These opponents do not want democracy to proceed on its necessary and desired course, although they raise the slogan of democracy. I do not favor arguments, defamation, or accusations. I speak out of a profound and unshakable belief that there is no life for us without democracy in practice, not form; in deed, not words. I am not one of those who maneuver. You have been accustomed to hearing me speak in complete frankness on any subject.

If we advocate the freedom of the press, this honestly means that we want genuine freedom for the press. You read the national and party papers daily. You can see that there is no restriction on the expression of opinions and thoughts. I leave to those who manage the press the task of safeguarding this freedom. I leave it to them to abide by the law and to observe the press' code of honor in presenting the news and ideas to the people.

This is why the sensationalistic and slandering press should be rejected, because it strikes a deadly blow to the freedom of the press and wrongly and unjustly violates the sanctities of citizens.

The weapon of criticism has been legitimized in order to defend the rights of the oppressed and those unjustly treated, and not to slaughter and shed blood and serve as a means for injustice and coercion. These are clear principles on which no one must disagree.

I will give a few simple examples of what is called the excesses of the national or party press. We have formed a Cabinet. By nature, when I form a Cabinet or take some other action, I do not make propaganda of it. I think and ask many people without letting them know what I am going to do. I had been thinking about forming a new Cabinet for 3 or 4 months. Some papers may have reported that a cabinet reshuffle was expected; they sensed this from the people. But I said nothing to anyone, even to the one closest to me. No one knew except perhaps 48 hours before. Even the prime minister did not know until possibly the morning of the reshuffle.

After the Cabinet was formed, I found out that a great writer, old in years and with extensive experience, had written in the newspaper: I will not congratulate the minister, but I will say that I feel sorry for him because the post of minister is not one for blessings and congratulations. It is a spike on which fate has destined you to sit. Is this the kind of thing a distinguished man says? Is this the kind of thing to be said in the country of values and principles? What this means is that a minister should not take over a ministry. Shall we make it a jamahiriyah without a government or anything else? Democracy is something imperative and there is no escape from it because it is the best system.

After the Cabinet was formed, someone said in one of the newspapers that the 'Ali Lutfi government had been formed to accept U.S. pressures and the conditions of the IMF. We do not accept pressure. I have said this a million times. We do not accept pressure or submit to the pressure of anyone, big or small. [Applause]

You are Egyptians, O people. Give an opportunity to those who work and make sacrifices. We accept criticism. Criticism does not make me angry and it absolutely does not annoy me. However, I want it to be constructive criticism serving the interests of the citizens, the people, the low-income strata. When criticism is made for criticism's sake only, then the object is to serve personal interests. I am not unaware of this fact and I know it well.

Some papers wrote things when the Cabinet was formed. The Cabinet resigned in the evning and I decided that the new Cabinet should be formed immediately. It was formed the next day and was sworn in on Saturday. I did not want to provide an opportunity for gossip and stories and for our abuse and harassment. I did not want everybody of the various persuasions to say whatever he liked. The Cabinet was formed. This is the truth and I am sorry to see what some papers write. The papers are supposed to take the people's interests into consideration.

When the Cabinet was formed, the ministers learned about their appointment from the news agencies. I have no qualms. This is a constitutional right. It is my right to change a Cabinet. I fear nothing. I do not fear any pressure, any devil, or any jinni. [Applause] I praise God that I am not unaware of what is taking place around me. I can confront any situation at any time. But why should we enter into conflicts and waste our efforts? Our efforts should be devoted to the service of the people. I believe that we are in dire need of the efforts of every citizen in this country. At any rate, these are simple examples. I do not want to elaborate because some things are painful. There has been unjustified defamation. Therefore, I urge the press to take into account the dignity of the honest people. There is absolutely no need to defame the people without reason. I urge our senior writers to verify the reports they are supplied with. Let us not defame our leaders. If we defame every new leadership, then how will we make progress? The world will not respect us. We must take this into account. I will be content with these few examples. There are many excesses but I do not want to elaborate, hoping that our brothers of the press, who are first-rate people, and our writers, who are outstanding writers, will verify the statements that they make about senior or junior officials and about any honest citizen in this country.

On this national day, one of the most significant days of freedom in our history, I appeal to the higher council of the press, which includes all officials responsible for editing the national and party papers and some of the brightest thinkers in Egypt, and to the journalists union's council to study this matter in a correct manner that strengthens press freedom, raises its standards, and increases the people's confidence in their press. I confidently reiterate that there are no restrictions on opinions or thoughts and that interference with the freedom of the press, the strongest pillar of democracy, is not permitted.

Brother citizens: Our democracy, which is based on the plurality of parties, calls for plurality of opinions and ideologies in free discussions after which the decision is left to the people to choose who will represent them in exercising their powers according to their own convictions. Everything, therefore, is taking place in the open. Our parties have been formed openly. Views are carried in the various media. All must accept and welcome this. The competition to concince others and to win their confidence is legal and required.

However, we have noticed a new phenomenon of late. The instigators of this phenomenon want what is taking place in the open to take place covertly. They lack the argument, logic, and ability to convince others. Therefore, they resort to spreading rumors. This is a secret party, the members of which could come from opposing factions. However, one clear aim unites them: the aim to spread rumors to shake stability and kill democracy. I do not live in an ivory tower isolated from all that is taking place and from the false rumors that are being spread. These are not spontaneous rumors; they are studied rumors designed to achieve their goals.

A person once telephoned me from one of the governorates. He said: How are you, Mr President? I do not know the man but he is a citizen. I said: Hello. He said: Are you well? I answered: Yes. He said: How strange. They said there had been some shooting. I laughed. [Cheers] There is a purpose behind this rumor. It meant to say: You people who are abroad know that this is an unstable country. You Egyptians who have money know that this is an unstable country. Smuggle your money out of the country. Do not build any factories, employ citizens, increase production, or pay taxes. Let the people die. [Applause] We hear these rumors from the jamahiriyah radio next door to us. They are the same rumors. We could play such a game. Is it a big deal? We could spread cheap rumors everywhere. However, we are mature. We could make up many things but this is not right. We reject such stupied measures. It is a shame that rumors depicting instability in our country are being spread.

They spread another rumor: that the Cabinet is divided into factions. Apparently, I formed a Cabinet with factions that I did not know anything about! They said that there is a power struggle between two major factions. This is what one of the papers wrote today. The faction of the defense minister supported by 'Usman Ahmad 'Usman and the faction of the speakers of the People's Assembly and the consultative council. Another time they said there was the faction of a certain minister and the faction of the prime minister. I want to tell you something, make sure never to listen to such rumors. I have no factions in any department, and

I do not accept working with factions or hearing about factions. I do not have factions in the government at all. [Applause]

I hope our brothers on the party newspapers will be accurate and verify their sources. In whose interest are such rumors made up? We have a supreme interest: the interest of the homeland, the interest of the low-income people, the interest of the Egyptian citizens.

Brothers and sisters, the recent Cabinet change took place in democracy and to achieve its basic aim, which is to give impetus to the national drive. The major problem facing us and facing all big and small countries of the world is the economic problem.

The cabinet of Kamal Hasan 'Ali made welcome efforts in this regard. We naturally thought of the need for the executive authority to be headed by a specialist on economic affairs. Any country facing a major economic problem tries to include a number of good economists in the government. We did not make the changes because the economy is collapsing and the debts are enormous. Neither this nor that, although everything can be solved. We needed economists experienced in executive work in order to speed up measures to deal with the situation and formulate an integrated economic policy needing no amendment. We are beginning the 4th year of the 5-year plan. After the 5th year we begin a new plan. This also required the appointment of a new prime minsiter.

The former prime minister stated the reasons for the Cabinet's resignation in the letter of resignation. The letter of appointment of the new Cabinet defined its aims. What then remains a mystery? What is so strange about this under a democratic system? Yet we read strange analyses with poisonous intentions that cast doubt on the reasons for the new Cabinet. They talk about outside forces, claiming that these forces pressured for the Cabinet change. I say to you and I repeat it for the 1 millionth time: No one has ever talked to me about changing the Cabinet and I will not permit an outsider even to hint to me about any of the officials. I will not accept it. [Applause]

If an inferiority complex among writers prompts them to write such foolish lines, they must first gain self-assurance before spreading doubts and misinformation. Egypt is the mother of all Egyptians. I do not challenge the patriotism of anyone, but I call on these writers to listen to their nationel conscience when they write. Difference of opinion among parties is natural, but exploitation of the written word so foolishly is hated and rejected.

We must all realize our duties and responsibilities. We are not offering solutions that will make the people oblivious to the real problems. The aim of the 5-year plan is to go to the root of these problems. We want to achieve comprehensive solutiosn though they may take a number of years to achieve with available means. These solutions are for this generation and future generations.

One example of a concrete solution is the Alexandria sewer system. The system was built in 1904, 81 years ago. The maintenance done on this system has been akin to simple, weak sedatives. The system covers 40 percent of Alexandria. We must find a concrete solution to the Alexandria sewage problem. Let me tell you that the system has always flowed from the houses into 23 drainage pipes that extend to the sea. The sewage flows without being recycled or cleaned. One interim solution was to extend two long pipes into the sea, but this was not enough. A committee discussed the matter and is about to decide on the extension of four other pipes more than 750 meters into the sea. This will make it possible to close the drainage pipes that flow into the sea immediately next to the beach. The four will cost 16 million pounds. This is not a solution to the problem, but just an interim solution. Work has begun on the major project.

Let me make it clear that the Alexandria drainage network will not be completed before 1989. It will cost 2 billion pounds. The present network in Alexandria was built in 1904 and only simple modifications have been made since. There might still be some pipes marked with the date of their installation. In other words, nobody has touched them since. The drainage network in Alexandria does not cover many areas. The new network, however, will cover most of these areas and will provide for more expansion. We have taken out a loan for the Alexandria project.

The sewer system in Cairo is awful. We are repairing the present system and working on the major project at the same time. The major project will carried out in two stages. The first stage will be completed in 1989. It will cost 2 billion pounds. We are implementing this stage now. You might have seen the British prime minister laying the foundation stone of the system in the 'Arab al-Muhammadi area today. All this costs billions of pounds. To complete the Cairo project, 2 billion more pounds should be set aside in the 5-year plan after 1989. In other words, 4 billion pounds will be spent to complete the sewer system in Cairo.

To modernize our factories — some factories were built in 1938 — we need 1,121 billion pounds. According to the 5-year plan, 2.47 billion pounds will be spent on electricity. The 5-year plan provides for spending 1.27 billion pounds on the railroads. Telephones will cost 1.384 billion pounds. Our budget does not provide for these astronomical figures. What we do is take out loans and then pay them back, which is the policy of all developing states. However, let us not go beyond the limit of the loans and let us channel their investment.

I give you these figures so that you realize how much money is being spent and how much our income is. I need money and could obtain it in the form of loans or grants, which we do not pay back. When I tell you that I will get a grant of approximately 2.8 billion pounds from the United States, they will say: The only thing left is for our rulers to go and walk around the White House. Walk about for what? [Applause] The ones who say this are very good and eminent people, but we do not walk around the White House or the Red House. We have our dignity. If we take aid, we do so in a dignified way. We do not give away our sovereignty or decision-making power and we do not import decisions from anybody. [Applause]

Water and electricity will cost 11 billion pounds. This equals our income of 1 year. We cannot do everything at once. We set our priorities and do what we can. These are the facts and these are the efforts made. This is the successful way to solve the serious problems from the roots. These are solutions that will benefit the coming generations. However, unjust criticism disregards all this

and depicts the question of pollution on some shores as an insoluble calamity. I cannot find a solution overnight. I assert that the Alexandria general drainage network will not be completed before 1989. This is being portrayed as if the present government were responsible for the mistakes of the many governments that ruled for half a century.

Our struggle today seeks to take quick steps to compensate for what has been missed. I would like to assure everybody that our economic policy is respected at international economic forums.

Brothers and Sisters: I will make a tour of Spain, Portugal, France, Washington, and New York in the next few days to hold discussions with heads of states to increase bilateral cooperation and give a push forward to peace efforts at this delicate juncture. This would contribute to the realization of our principal goals in developing stability and progress. My mission in New York includes several meetings with government leaders and senior officials who will attend the UN General Assembly's new session. This will give us a good opportunity to serve similar national goals, which are our main concern and principal commitment to our noble people and glorious nation.

My greatest hope is to draw strength, firmness, and self-assurance from this anniversary of the immortal victory which the people of Egypt won in Rosetta. They defeated aggression and defended the land against foreign occupation in 1807. All who wrote the history of the battle of Rosetta will testify that the utter defeat inflicted upon the invaders gave them reason to pause for 75 years before carrying out their invasion and occupation in 1882. Our land has been liberated; let our minds be liberated. Our decision is in our hands; let our hands be strong. The liberated minds will chart the road for developed Egypt. Freedom is the fuel of work, and work is the shield of building. Let it be work and building for the good of Egypt. This is our faith. People may go but Egypt will remain, the Egypt of the grandfathers, sons, and grandchildren, and of all Egyptians. May God grant us and you success. God's peace, mercy, and blessings be with you. [Applause]

More on Prime Minister Thatcher's Visit

Mubarak, Thatcher Banquet Speeches

NC172022 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak and his wife gave a banquet at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah tonight in honor of British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mr Dennis Thatcher, and their accompanying delegation.

The banquet was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at Al-Mahjub, Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Presidential Assistant Mamduh Salim, and Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim. Also present were Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food security; Safwat al-Sharif, minister of information; and Engineer Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, minister of industry. The banquet was also attended by Mahir Abazah, Minister of Electricity and Energy; Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade; 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Ahmad Haykal, minister of culture; the governors of Cairo, Al-Jizah, and Al-Qaulyubiyah; and the Egyptian ambassador in London, Yusuf Shararah.

President Mubarak and Mrs Margaret Thatcher both spoke at the banquet. The following is the text of President Mubarak's speech:

Mrs Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Dear friends.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Excellency to Egypt on a visit of the utmost importance for our two countries. This visit is very timely, coming as it does at a delicate turning point in the history of the Middle East.

Your visit to Cairo is the first to Egypt by a British prime minister since the Second World War. Your presence among us today is doubly important, being a symbolic step toward closer and warmer relations between our two countries.

I have met with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on numerous occasions in the past few years. I have always found conversations with her to be stimulating and useful. Mrs Margaret Thatcher is a leader with a correct outlook. She is courageous. She has always worked hard to strengthen the close relations between the United Kingdom and the countries of the Middle East. In this regard, her interest is real and sincere.

Furthermore, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's fully aware of the EC's role in achieving peace and stability in this turbulent region. She also realizes that we share her interest in the need to consolidate peace and prepare the way for a new age marked by progress and development.

Today, we believe that the time is ripe to strengthen our efforts for peace. If we do not take swift and immediate action in this regard, the forces of extremism and violence will prevail. We have no doubt that our friends and partners in various parts of the world understand how serious it would be if this were to happen. I have discussed with our distinguished guest ways of ensuring that it does not. Our talks also dealt with bilateral relations, with the aim of strengthening cooperation between us.

The British prime minister has been given the opportunity to see at first hand the efforts we are making for economic development and social progress.

The Egyptian people are fully aware of the challenges facing them. It is their great desire to confront these challenges with firmness and determination. We have endured many heavy burdens in the past. We are ready to do the same now and in the future.

We require understanding and cooperation from our friends as we shoulder this responsibility. We also hope that your visit will

result in a noticeable increase in our economic cooperation. Egypt's history and culture have captured the British people's imagination for centuries.

We are happy because during this visit, the British prime minister will be able to witness more of our heritage and civilization. We view our current struggle for progress and development as a continuation of the same noble mission that our predecessors undertook to make life richer and more wothy.

Friends and Gentlemen: We are happy to have Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher here in Cairo today. Her visit is considered an outstanding landmark in the history of our relations.

While we pray to God Almighty to make Mrs Margaret Thatcher's efforts successful and to support her endeavors to achieve the prosperity she desires for her people, I ask you to share with me in a toast to the health of our great guest and to the friendly people of the United Kingdom. Thank you.

Margaret Thatcher gave the following speech in reply:

Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: Thank you, Mr President, for your kind words and for the friendly welcome accorded me and my accompanying delegation by you and the Egyptian people. Well over 40 years, which is a long time, have elapsed since the last British prime minister, Winston Churchill, perhaps the greatest British prime minister, visited Cairo in late 1943. He met here with President Roosevelt.

In his book on World War II, Churchill wrote that he could not bear the idea of leaving Cairo. President Roosevelt wrote that he had seen the Sphinx. On their last day in Cairo, Churchill and Roosevelt together watched that wonder of the world and time from every angle. Sir Winston said that he and Roosevelt watched the Sphinx silently and meditatively as darkness fell. The Sphinx did not inspire them but maintained its silent and mysterious smile. There was no use of waiting any longer.

Mr President: This story demonstrates the fasination inherent in your country with which Britain has been transfixed throughout the ages. In no other spot on earth is there such a feeling of history as abundantly exists in the Nile Valley. This land is the cradle of civilization. We came here when we wanted to study the origins of our culture and lifestyle. Had the Sphinx been less reticent and had he disclosed something to Winston Churchill about the future of British-Egyptian relations, he, I believe, would have felt sad about the problems we were to encounter. Now, however, we have put these problems behind us.

We have had the honor and happiness to welcome you three times during your visits to Britain. These visits have strengthened our mutual understanding. My current visit comes at a time when we can honestly say that relations between Britain and Egypt have never been better than they are now.

Mr President: We in Britain have no doubt about Egypt's lofty status. Your country is the connecting link between Africa and Asia. Egypt's influence also extends throughout the entire Arab world. We can find Egyptian doctors, teachers, lawyers, merchants, financiers, and engineers everywhere in these countries. All of them perform their jobs and teach their fellow Arabs there. Egypt's role in international affairs is greater: It is a founding member of the Nonaligned Movement and has leading influence in African affairs. In the United Nations, Egypt will always occupy a forefront position in view of its real contributions.

Mr President, in particular and with admiration we appreciate the quality of leadership manifested by you and by your great predecessor, President al-Sadat.

It was a turning point in our recent history and a great act indicating insight and courage when your great predecessor took his step toward peace with your northeastern neighbor, Israel. We in Britain have customarily admired those who possess what we call courage based on conviction. We also admire those who are able to bring about changes in history and overcome problems which seem inextricable.

Therefore, since you took office, you have, through sharp perception and great courage, worked to commit your country to this peace with determination and firmness. You have nursed it and moved it forward toward a comprehensive, just, and permanent solution accepted without reservation by all the peoples and states of this region. With all sincerity, Britain supports you in seeking to achieve this goal. We have welcomed, as you have also welcomed, the brave initiative His Majesty King Husayn made last February. Your firm commitment to this attempt to begin negotiations has been of great value.

Britain has no direct role in this process. However, it does not accept a situation in which a permanent stalemate prevails, even though there are those who wish just this.

Therefore, we believe we can help. No, we must help to lay the groundwork for the start of negotiations. These negotiations must be aimed at establishing a permanent and indivisible peace, at providing security for all states in the region, including Israel, and at enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights.

In this way we believe we can create an atmosphere of confidence that would be indispensable should the Israelis and the Arabs be committed to the outcome of the negotiations on matters of utmost and vital importance to them, matters such as security, land, and peace.

During our talks today, we discussed how to work together toward achieving this objective. I will pursue the same approach with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan in Amman this weekend.

Mr President: Our talks also dealt with several other matters, as is expected between two states whose interests transcend a regional sphere and extend to a farther and greater range. We discussed the prospects for the upcoming summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev. We hope this meeting will produce the basis for an agreement on a mutual reduction of nuclear weapons.

We also agreed to increase our cooperation in dealing with terrorism and saboteurs. We reviewed the developments in Africa, especially the very difficult situation in South Africa, where basic reforms and the initiation of an early dialogue between the government and the black majority have become of vital importance. I can say that our viewpoints on these topics were remarkably close.

The historian Herodotus wrote well over 2,000 years ago that "Egypt had more magnificent things that inspire admiration than any other country." During this visit, and I am sorry it is short, I will see some of these marvelous things that have been admired by both past and present generations. Among the things I will see are some of the great ancient archaeological sites that history has handed down.

I am bursting with pride because of the modern things I will see will be one of Britain's greatest development projects: The Cairo sewage project. I will visit that site tomorrow along with your prime minister.

Mr President: In appreciation of old and new achievements, and out of confidence in Egypt's future, I would like to propose a toast to your health, to your wife, and to peace and prosperity in Egypt, as well as to the continuing strength of British-Egyptian relations.

Thatcher Departs for Jordan

NC181617 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Luxor, 18 Sep (MENA) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher left Luxor International Airport this afternoon for Jordan, concluding a 3-day official visit to Egypt.

During her stay, Thatcher conducted talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the Middle East issue, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Palestinian problem, the Iraq-Iran war, as well as on bilateral relations.

Before leaving Luxor, Thatcher toured archaeological sites. She also made a predeparture statement in which she stressed the need to take action on the Middle East problem. A first step should be taken, the Prime Minister said, pointing out that her country would support such action, despite the fact that it has not initiated any new moves itself.

Thatcher also told MENA that her talks with President Mubarak were useful, frank, and constructive.

Margaret Thatcher expressed hope that a meeting between the parties concerned with the Middle East problem will take place, noting that she will meet King Husayn of Jordan tonight and tomorrow. She added that, as usual, she will hold consultations with the Americans over her talks in Egypt and Jordan. The British prime minister concluded by thanking the Egyptian Government and President Mubarak for the hospitality accorded her during the visit.

Egypt's ambassador to London, Yusuf Shararah, said that Margaret Thatcher promised to make use of her good relations with the United States to promptly accelerate the pace of the peace efforts. This will happen in coordination with Egypt and Jordan. He added that there was agreement of opinion between President Mubarak and Thatcher.

Commentary on Thatcher Talks

NC181530 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Hasan Fu'ad commentary: "Will Reason Prevail Over the Attempts To Impede a Peaceful Solution?"]

[Text] There is no longer any excuse for excluding the PLO from the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. All of the excuses that Israel and the Zionist pressure groups in the United States have been using to prevent any American official from meeting with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that includes PLO members have run out.

Following his talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday, President Mubarak told the correspondents of major newspapers and world-wide television networks that the U.S. Administration should not render the matter of choosing the names of the Palestinians to the joint delegation as an obstacle to holding peace talks. In confirmation of this, President Mubarak said: Whether we like it or not, the members of the Palestinian delegation will be chosen by the PLO because it is difficult for us to know who is a PLO member and who is not. Therefore, we must be realistic and not create problems from minor differences. The choice of names should not impede our march forward.

For her part, Mrs Thatcher said the following at the press conference held after her talks with President Mubarak: We are enthusiastic to give a new impetus to the peace process, especially to achieve the first step; namely, a meeting between the United States and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. PLO members who reject terrorism as a means to achieve a political end may participate in this delegation. There are many PLO members who completely reject terrorism. Mrs Thatcher has thus spelled out her stand to her American allies. She has emphasized that the obstacles being raised by those who have special interests in obstructing the peace process are no longer justified. No country in the world is closer to the United States in its political line and thinking than the British Government of Mrs Thatcher.

In her statements and talks, Prime Minister Thatcher has persistently praised the American role in resolving the Middle East issue. Likewise, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration pays more attention to what Mrs Thatcher says than to the statements of any other prime minister in either East or West. Will the U.S. Government also listen attentively this time to the opinion expressed by the leader of its greatest ally? Will the American officials also undertake a constructive and decisive step, the first step toward embarking on the peace process? Mrs Thatcher has described such a step as very important. That step would be embodied in an agreement on choosing the names of the Palestinians who are to participate in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. This is provided that such an agreement is reached without any prejudices, meaningless excuses, or cate-

gorization. It is no longer acceptable or reasonable to exclude PLO members from the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation because the PLO has been recognized by the majority of the world's states as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It also has representative offices in the majority of the world's capitals, including in London.

President Mubarak has often referred to this point. Mrs Thatcher is now expressing the same opinion. Will reason and logic prevail over the attempts to impede the peace process?

Ugandan Foreign Minister Arrives, Makes Statement

NC171656 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — Ugandan Foreign Minister Olara Otonnu arrived in Cairo from Khartoum this afternoon. He is heading a delegation on a 2-day visit to Egypt.

In an arrival statement, the Ugandan foreign minister said that he will deliver a message to President Husni Mubarak from Ugandan President General Tito Okello. He will also brief Egyptian officials on the situation in Uganda and the efforts being made by Ugandan leaders to achieve reconciliation and stability.

Otonnu added that he will hold talks with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid on bilateral relations and on ways to promote them following the military coup that toppled Obote's regime in July. Otonnu pointed out that his talks will also focus on a number of African issues. The coordination of the two countries' positions regarding the agenda of the UN General Assembly's 40th session, which will open in New York on 21 September, will be touched upon as well.

Meets With Al-Majid

NC171817 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1733 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met this evening with his Ugandan counterpart, Olara Otonnu. Otonnu arrived in Cairo earlier today. After the meeting, which was also attended by Ahmad Sidqi, director of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's African Department, the Ugandan minister said he is visiting Cairo as the personal envoy of Ugandan President Tito Okello. He is to deliver a message from his excellency to President Husni Mubarak.

The Ugandan minister stressed his country's eagerness to strengthen its relations with Egypt. He noted that another purpose of his trip is to brief the Egyptian Government on developments in Uganda and to explain the new government's policy. This policy is based on the achievement of peace, unity, and stability in Uganda. He pointed out that his visit to Egypt is part of a tour which took him to Burundi, Rwanda, Zaire, and Sudan. His itinerary will also include Ethiopia and Libya. 'Abd al-Majid used the meeting to assert Egypt's interest in strengthening its historic relations with Uganda. The Ugandan foreign minister is scheduled to leave Cairo for Addis Ababa tomorrow.

Leaves for Addis Ababa

NC181218 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA) — Ugandan Foreign Minister Olara Otonnu left Cairo this morning for Addis Ababa at the end of a 1 day visit to Egypt, during which he handed Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, a message for President Husni Mubarak from Ugandan President Tito Okello.

Minister Leaves for China Visit 17 Sep

NC171022 Cairo MENA in English 0922 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, Sept. 17 (MENA) — Minister of Awqaf Dr. Al-Ahmadi Abu al-Nur left here today for China on a week-long visit.

In a statement before departure Abu al-Nur said the visit aims at starting cooperation between the two ministries of endowment.

China has expressed readiness to cooperate with the Egyptian Ministry of Awqaf in setting up a fishing farm project, an agro-industrial complex in Al-Sharqiyah Governorate, he said, adding during his visit he will work for fostering religious relations with Chinese Muslims and will place the foundation stone of an Islamic cultural complex in China.

Lutfi Receives Congratulations From Iraq's Ramadan

NC182101 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA) — Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi has received a congratulatory cable from Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Iraqi RCC and first deputy prime minister. The cable reads:

On the occasion of your appointment as prime minister of fraternal Egypt, it pleases me to extend to you my sincere greetings and heartfelt wishes for continued health and success in assuming your new responsibility. I wish to assert our absolute confidence that the developed Iraqi-Egyptian relations will continue to grow, expand, and prosper. We also wish to express our confidence in your willingness and your responsible efforts to cement and promote these ties in all fields, in order to serve our two fraternal countries and the general interests of our Arab nation as a whole.

Troops Injured in Explosions on Border With Libya

GF180906 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0630 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 Sep (WAM) — The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* has said that a number of Egyptian officers and soldiers in the units stationed on the Egyptian-Libyan border have been injured as a result of the explosion of some mines.

The paper said that the number of wounded in the explosion, which took place on the western Egyptian border, has not been determined.

Papers Denounce U.S. Veto on Nonaligned Resolution
NC150644 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2204 GMT 14 Sep 85

[Text] Cairo, 14 Sep (MENA) — In their Sunday editorials, *AL-AKHBAR* and *AL-JUMHURIYAH* denounce the U.S. veto at the UN Security Council of the resolution presented by the nonaligned states calling on Israel to end the extraordinary measures to suppress Arab inhabitants in the occupied Arab territories.

AL-AKHBAR says that despite the fact that the six nonaligned states that drafted the resolution had avoided using such fitting expressions as criticize, denounce, and condemn and had merely expressed regret over these measures, the United States objected to the resolution. It did so although the U.S. Administration itself has expressed concern over mounting violence in the occupied territories and regret at Israel's repressive measures.

The paper emphasizes that by adopting such a stand, the United States jeopardizes the chances for dialogue with the Arab states as well as all U.S. interests in the Middle East.

AL-JUMHURIYAH, meanwhile, writes that by using the veto at the Security Council, the United States has not deviated from its illogical line of siding with Israel in all its expansionist military campaigns against the territories of the Palestinian people and neighboring Arab peoples, and in its increasing violations of all the principles of international law.

The paper goes on to say that it is strange that the United States adopts this stand at a time when there is definite need for action to uphold the principles of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The paper notes that the United States' use of the veto in support of Israel against the principles of human rights in the occupied Arab territories runs counter to the role that the United States is required to play in its capacity as a superpower with interests in the area.

The paper concludes its commentary by emphasizing that it is time for the United States to reconsider its stand so that it may conform with the real principles of peace and justice.

Planes Bomb Khark, Dizeh, Rezashah Power Stations

JN191239 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1126 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Communique No 1,962 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 19 September 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

God is great, God is great, God is great. Glorious Iraqis, O pride and dignity of the nation, once again your courageous sons, the brave hawks of the air, took off from their dens in the direction of Khark Island and other vital targets, which will be detailed later, to destroy the pillars of aggression and evil in the name of God and the great Iraqi people and to tell the evil men in Iran as well as the peace-loving people in Iran and the world that the source of evil is groaning under the strikes of the valiant Iraqis and that the evil men in Iran have no choice but to accept peace and stop the war. Our blows to the criminals' necks are the way to protect the Arab nation and the Iraq of glory and dignity.

O Iraqis, at 1240 [0840 GMT] Baghdad time today, your sons again took off and pounced from a very low altitude on the northern loading jetty of the western dock on Khark Island, the Iranian rulers' remaining hope which escaped the first brave strike. They turned it into scattered debris gutted by fire.

At the same time, other formations led by the brave hawks of the air pounced on the Dizeh Dam power station and the power distributing plant of the Rezashah Great Dam, destroying it completely.

Say with us, O glorious Iraqis: God is great, God is great, God is great. Thank Almighty God for His great victory.

All formations of the hawks returned safely to the homeland, tasting the sweetness of this day — the day of the two Qadisiyahs which will be remembered by your grandsons for generations, because it is our courageous men's outstanding act, which has been blessed by God. Praise be God for His great victory.

We now tell the empty-headed Tehran rulers in the name of the great Iraqi people that the Iraqi hammer will continue to strike their heads strongly and resolutely and will crush all vital targets wherever they may be in the Iranian interior, with God's help and the courage of our brave men. We say to the Iranian people: Your rulers, who have wasted your blood, which has flowed in torrents because of their insistance on the policy of aggression and expansion, will destroy the main pillars of the Iranian economy that you have built for many years with your sweat and blood. We have no other choice if your rulers continue to insist on aggression and refuse to stop the war and achieve peace.

God is great! Victory for great Iraq! God is great! Glory to our Arab nation, the nation of glory and peace! Let the defeated face ignominy.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 September 1985

Communique on Northern Battle, Maritime Target

JN181708 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Communique No 1,961 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 September 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces are continuing to wage their battles with their well-known courage in all the arenas of fighting in order to glorify Iraq, defend its freedom and sovereignty, and crush and wipe out the forces of evil and the upholders of aggression, the criminal Iranian rulers. Our brave soldiers are proving with their deeds the Khomeyniite criminals' inability to establish a single foothold on our blessed soil. They are demonstrating that God's curse is hovering over them in view of their repeated defeats at the hands of the Iraqi soldiers.

The following is a roundup of operations for yesterday evening and today.

1. Our forces in the V Army Corps sector under the command of Major General Diya' al-Din Jamal, commander of the V Army Corps, launched a lightning, resolute attack with the aim of occupying three extremely important vantage points on our northeastern borders at 2400 last night [2000 GMT on 17 September]. After a battle that was characterized by impeccable performance and courage and in which fighters from our Kurdish people participated, the frustrated enemy was defeated and the three vantage points were occupied. The situation was finally decided in favor of our forces in their new positions.

The operation was carried out by the Badr Forces command under Staff Major General Rashshash Siyad Daghir al-Imarah, commander of the Badr Forces, and through the Bariq Force under Staff Colonel Bariq 'Abdallah al-Haj Quntah; the Muhammad Force under Special Forces Major Muhammad 'Abdallah 'Ali; the Qasim Force under Special Forces Lieutenant General Qasim al-'Uraybi Farhan; the Najm Force under Special Forces Staff Major Najm 'Abdallah Al-Sabti; fighter Qadir Bik Mahmud Khalifah, adviser to the 31st Regiment; and fighter Karim Khan Mahmud Khalifah, adviser to the 40th Regiment.

2. At 2300 [1900 GMT] last night our powerful planes carried out a successful raid on a large maritime target near Iranian shores, scoring accurate, effective hits. Having carried out their mission, the hawks of the air returned with their planes, safe and triumphant, in God's care.

3. While our Air Force plans were destroying all the soruces of aggression at sea, other planes continued their raids on enemy units opposite our forces in the East Maysan IV Army Corps sector and the East Tigris VI Army Corps sector, inflicting massive losses on enemy personnel and equipment in 86 missions today. Our hawks returned to base with their planes, safe and successful, praise be to God. This is the just punishment that the Khomeyniites have to take because of their miserable attempts to commit aggression against our peaceful cities and their insistence on the policy of war and aggression.

4. With courage and high morale, the brave helicopter pilots carried out raids on enemy units opposite our units in the V Army Corps northern sector, aiming at enemy concentrations, vehicles, and gun emplacements. Having accurately carried out their mission by inflicting massive losses on the enemy, our pilots returned safely to base.

5. In the East Basra III Army Corps sector, one of our forward units spotted an enemy boat. The unit opened fire, destroying the boat and killing two enemy soldiers. In the same sector, other units destroyed three enemy infantry positions and burned one ammunition dump.

6. One observation tower and another observation post were destroyed in the East Tigris VI Army Corps sector.

7. One enemy vehicle was destroyed and all its occupants killed in the 1st Army Corps northern sector.

8. An Iranian pilot with captain's rank sought refuge in our country after refusing to cooperate with the gang of anarchy, ruination, and terror that rules Iran. He arrived perfectly safe at the assigned place.

9. The criminal clique's forces shelled Al-Shihabi with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 September 1985

AL-THAWRAH on Arab-Kurdish Unity in Iran-Iraq War

JN190748 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA) — The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* says that the Kurdish people's participation in yesterday's battle to control three mountain ridges has dispelled the Iranian rulers' dreams and bets on splitting the Iraqi people's unity. In today's editorial, the paper adds that Kurdish fighters fought alongside the fighters of the V Army Corps to crush the Iranian units on these ridges.

The paper affirms that the Iraqis stand in one rank, from the north to the south, in defense of their country, revolution, and achievements. It points out that while Iraq is reinforcing its victory, the Iranian regime is quickly falling to its final defeat and collapse. The paper stresses Iranians will pay a heavy price for any new aggression against Iraq or any of the Arab Gulf countries and only severe punishment awaits them anywhere anytime.

Saddam Receives Jordanian Court Chief Al-Qasim

JN181803 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1743 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Jordanian Royal Court, today. They discussed fraternal bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by Chief of the President's Office Ahmad Husayn, the president's secretary, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Soviet Official Osadchuk Continues Visit

Meets With Irrigation Minister

JN181843 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud met here today with Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and deputy chairman of the Soviet side on the Iraqi-USSR committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation, and the accompanying delegation.

The two sides discussed the means to promote bilateral relations in irrigation and [word indistinct] field in a manner that serves the interests of the two friendly countries.

Meets With Industry Minister

JN181903 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA) — Industry and Minerals Minister Subhi Yasin today met with Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. They discussed the existing cooperation and means to promote it in various ways in order to serve the interests of the two friendly peoples.

Cooperation Contract Signed

JN171934 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1758 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Sep (INA) — Iraq and the USSR concluded a contract on economic and technical cooperation here today.

'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Jalabi, Oil Ministry under secretary and chairman of the Iraqi National Oil Company, signed the contract for the Iraqi side while Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, signed it for the Soviet side. The contract stipulates that the Soviet Tekhnoeksport will continue to drill oil wells in the future.

Tariq 'Aziz Leaves for UN General Assembly Session

JN181808 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today left Baghdad for New York leading the Iraqi delegation to the 40th session of the United Nations General Assembly, which started yesterday. The delegation includes high-ranking Foreign Ministry officials.

Briefs

Ambassadors Present Credentials — Baghdad, 17 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received the credentials of (Joy Storwik), the new Thai ambassador to Iraq, and of David George Newton, the new U.S. ambassador. [Excerpt] */Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 17 Sep 85 JN/*

Reportage on UK Prime Minister Thatcher's Visit

Envoy Coles Outlines UK Stand

JN180655 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 85 p 1, 5

['Text' of statement by British Ambassador to Jordan John Coles made in Amman on 17 September on the occasion of Prime Minister Thatcher's visit to Jordan]

[Text] Amman —The British Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP, has long wished to visit the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and is delighted to do so this week at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn. Throughout her years as Prime Minister she has followed developments in Jordan with keen interest. She has held frequent meetings in London with His Majesty King Husayn during which the events and problems of the region have been discussed in great detail. She now much looks forward to seeing Jordan at first hand.

The British Government greatly values the friendship and cooperation of Jordan. Britain has long admired both the Kingdom's striking social and economic development over the years and its constructive efforts to solve the problems of the area. The visit by the British Prime Minister at this time is designed to demonstrate British support and admiration for His Majesty the King and for the government and people of Jordan.

Britain continues to play an active role in the search for a comprehensive, lasting and just settlement of the Palestinian problem. The initiative taken by His Majesty the King holds out the best hope of progress towards a negotiated solution of the conflict. The British Government was among the first to welcome the Jordanian/Palestinian agreement of 11 February as a positive and constructive step. Mrs. Thatcher told the British House of Commons on 26 February that she believed "the time was propitious for full efforts to arrive at a solution of the Arab/Israel problem". She expressed her support for the efforts of His Majesty King Husayn to arrive at a common position among moderate Arab Governments. Since then the British Government have worked to increase international support for these efforts.

Relations between Jordan and Britain are close and strong. The friendship at the top between two royal families, brilliantly symbolised by the 1984 state visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth to the Hashemite Kingdom, is reflected in the close ties at governmental level and personal relationship between many individual Jordanians and Britons.

Two organisations —the Jordan-British Society in Amman and the Anglo-Jordanian Society in London —run active programmes designed to foster cooperation between the two countries. Both societies are honoured by the patronage of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince.

Cultural relations flourish. In Jordan the British Council run a full programme of activities, including a substantial and important English-language teaching programme. The performance of Swan Lake by the London City Ballet at this year's Jerash Festival was acknowledged to have been very successful. Further cultural events of comparable quality are planned. Meanwhile there are currently over 700 students from Jordan in Britain on a large variety of courses.

Britain continues to take an active interest in Jordan's economic and social development. An 8 million pound loan was made available in 1982 and is currently being used for important projects in the fields of electricity, vocational training and university education. In addition, under a British technical assistance programme, a substantial number of British experts are working in various sectors of the Jordanian economy. The British government is currently following with interest the preparation of Jordan's next Five Year Plan.

Meanwhile, trade relations between the two countries continue to be strong despite the economic recession in the area. British firms have played, and continue to play today, an important role in major construction projects in Jordan. They also supply a wide range of defence equipment to the Jordan Armed Forces with whom the British Armed Forces have traditionally enjoyed a close and friendly relationship.

During her visit to Jordan the Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher will seek to build on this sound foundation and to chart a path for continued cooperation and friendship between Britain and Jordan to the benefit and enrichment of both our countries.

Al-Rifa'i Welcomes Thatcher

JN181749 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in Amman this evening on an official 3-day visit to Jordan during which she will hold talks with His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and his wife received Mrs Thatcher at the airport, where two little girls presented Mrs Thatcher and her husband with bouquets of flowers.

Mrs Thatcher shook hands with the court minister, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the chief chamberlain, and their wives, as well as the Jordanian ambassador in London and the British ambassador in Amman.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and his wife shook hands with the delegation accompanying Mrs Thatcher.

Mrs Thatcher was accorded an official welcome. Mr Zayd al-Rifa'i accompanied Jordan's guest to the dais. The national anthems of the two countries were played. Mrs Thatcher, accompanied by the prime minister, inspected a guard of honor representing the Jordanian Armed Forces formations from the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

The British prime minister then shook hands with the deputy prime minister and minister of education, the ministers, the mayor of Amman, the Amman governor, the doyen of the diplomatic corps, the EEC ambassadors, the Commonwealth states ambassadors, and senior military and civilian officials. Mrs Thatcher, accompanied by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and his wife, left for the royal palaces, passing through the streets

of the capital which were decorated with Jordanian flags [as heard] and placards with slogans hailing Jordanian-British relations.

Mrs Thatcher is accompanied by an official delegation consisting of the assistant minister of state for foreign and commonwealth offices and a number of British officials.

Thatcher Meets King Husayn

JN181722 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Al-Nadwah Palace this evening at the beginning of her official visit to Jordan which will last until Friday. His majesty welcomed Mrs Thatcher and wished her a pleasant stay in Jordan. There was a cordial discussion during the meeting which dealt with relations between the two countries.

Husayn-Thatcher Dinner Speeches

JN182034 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] At a dinner party given in honor of Mrs Thatcher, his majesty the king welcomed the British prime minister in Amman and said he was confident her visit would prove to be another distinctive landmark in the history of frutiful cooperation between the two governments. His majesty said: It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Amman and Jordan. The people and government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan join me in extending this warm welcome to you, to Mr Thatcher, and the delegation accompanying you. They all share with me the pleasure of presenting my highest admiration to you as well as asserting our friendship and respect to the friendly British people. The visit by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to Jordan in March of last year was a shining link to the chain of strong historical ties between our two countries. Not only did it contribute to a strengthening of relations but it also deepened our faith in the continuing dialogue and understanding which serve our common goals.

I am confident, Prime Minister, that your own visit will prove to be another distinctive landmark in the history of frutiful cooperation and consultation between our two governments. I am equally confident that it will open up a broader horizon of common action between our two countries and peoples. The last 6 years have enabled me personally to get to know you well through several meetings on matters of common interest. I am happy to say that they have always had useful and positive results leading to a friendship of which I am proud and which occupies a special place among my many friendships with world leaders. It should not escape me on this occasion to express my government's appreciation to her majesty's government for its understanding of and support for developing projects in Jordan in the form of loans, technical assistance, and information exchange.

I look forward to a strengthening of cooperation which would serve the common goals and mutual interests of our two countries. Prime Minister, strong historical ties between the United Kingdom and this important region imply not only a comprehensive knowledge by your country as a European state of the concerns of the region's peoples and their aspirations but also a special responsibility towards the region as a whole. As you will not doubt notice during your current visit, we in Jordan are fighting two battles at once: The first is concerned with growth and development, the other aims at protecting our achievements, providing our citizens with security and stability, and defending our land and sovereignty and the liberation of the occupied Arab territories. We have accomplished much in the development field. However, achievement has fallen short of aspirations, namely because of constraint imposed by the need to restore security and stability in the region through arriving at peaceful solutions to the conflict with which it is beset. Foremost among these is the Arab-Israeli conflict with all its ramifications and side effects. As you will know, Jordan's position on these conflicts has not been one of passive endurance or disregard of the dangers threatening the region's well-being now or in the future. Empowered by a true sense of responsibility, Jordan has always confronted these problems in a spirit of positive engagement, balance, and moderation. It has joined its own sincere efforts with regional and international attempts to seek suitable solutions to the Middle East crisis by peaceful means in accordance with the UN Charter, principles, and resolutions.

You are no doubt fully aware of the efforts we have exerted over the 18 years to arrive at a just and comprehensive peace of the Middle East crisis, whose core is the Palestinian issue. Our most recent initiative aimed at invigorating the peace process has been the accord reached by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization and concluded on 11 February 1985. The accord has grown out of a shared belief by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in the efficacy of joint action aimed at reaching peaceful, just, and comprehensive settlement. It is founded on a collective Arab desire for peace as enunciated in the peace plan of the 1982 Fes summit.

Under all circumstances, this accord is not a substitute for joint Arab action. Indeed, it is part of it, constituting one of its links. What is new and important here is the initiative's emphasis on two principles of conflict resolution principles, which have been hitherto been passed over, or deliberately ignored, resulting in unnecessary complication and waste of time. The first principle is that any parties to a dispute ought to be parties to its resolution, thus opening the way for the participation in the peace process by the Palestine Liberation Organization on behalf of the Palestinian people. The second is the need for the parties to any conflict to start off from a point of equilibrium in order to arrive at a balanced resolution. As far as the Middle East crisis is concerned, this can only be achieved through implementation of Security Council Resolution 338, which calls for peace negotiations under appropriate international auspices. In 1973, these took the form of an international conference in Geneva. It is our view that this is still the approach required today, mainly peace negotiations under the aegis of an international conference in which the five permanent members of the Security Council would participate along with all the parties to the dispute. The encouragement which our peace initiative has received from friendly European countries, especially the United Kingdom, justifies our expectation of continued support for it. It is in the interest of security

and peace. We hope this support will grow into a collective European effort, which would help end the hesitation of some countries or change the negative attitude of others.

The failure to abide by the United Nations Charter and to implement its resolutions constitute the major reason for the failure of serious peace efforts aimed at reaching a just and comprhensive solution to the Middle East problem. This also is the primary reason for Israel's intransigence and its continued occupation of Arab territories for more than 18 years now. Israel is bent on its expansionist policies, which is reflected in its insistence of referring to the West Bank as Judaea and Samaria, and its denial of the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, or even of acknowledging their existence as a people. Israel continues to build settlements in the occupied territories, expropriates natural resources, foremost among them water. It annexed Arab Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, confiscated Arab property and homes, expropriated more than half the land on the occupied West Bank, and denies people the right to property and use under the pretext that they were absent when the occupation took place in 1967.

The inhuman treatement of Arabs under occupation by the Israeli authorities is public knowledge now. All international investigative committees have unanimously confirmed Israel's violation of the Geneva Convention. These are manifested in allowing Israelis, and encouraging them, to move into the occupied territories, in the terror practices by these settlers and fanatics against Arabs, in the penalties and collective arrests and the burden of heavy taxation, in the demolishing of homes, closure of schools and universities, and in the imprisonment of children and expulsion of adults. Only a few days ago, the Israeli occupation authorities expelled 18 citizens from the West Bank, adding to the hundreds who were expelled before.

On the other hand, there is the steadfastness of the Arab Palestinian people, their refusal to accept occupation, and their clinging to their national identity and national soil. Can we hope for a rejuvenated and determined international will to deter Israel and check its aggressive practices and dislodge her from extremism, arrogance, and the appetite for expansion and point her in the direction of reason, humanity, and peace, or shall we let the situation deteriorate, leading to a rise in extremism or to greater anguish and suffering, to a draining of resources, and to an increase in tension and dangers?

Prime Minister, preoccupied as it is with arriving at a just and comprehensive peace on its western border, Jordan is anxious to see the war raging beyond its eastern border come to an end. The violent war in the Gulf, now in its 6th year, continues to claim lives, drain resources, and threaten the entire Gulf region because of Iran's intransigence and its rejection of international peace initiatives.

While believing in the necessity to settle the Iraq-Iran dispute by peaceful means and encouraging all initiatives towards this end, Jordan stands by Iraq in the just defense of its land and people. Jordan calls on the Iranian regime to respond to the voice of reason and the call for peace.

Prime Minister, once against I extend to you and to Mr Thatcher and the accompanying delegation our warmest welcome among the people of Jordan. I hope you will have a pleasant stay and I wish the friendly British people continued success and prosperity. Peace be upon you and God's mercy and His blessings.

Mrs Thatcher replied to his majesty's address:

[Begin recording] Your Majesty, Your Royal Highnesses, Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is a great happiness and fulfills a longstanding ambition for me to be in Amman at last as your guest. One of the privileges of a British prime minister, indeed one of the greatest of them, is the opportunity to work closely with Your Majesty. I have very much valued our collaboration — and I hope I am not presumptuous in saying friendship — over more than 6 years now.

Over that period, I have learned a great deal, not only about the problems of the Middle East, but about the human qualities, above all of courage and clearsightedness, which have earned Your Majesty respect and admiration worldwide: respect and admiration not just as a defender of Jordan's independence, although that you have done with outstanding success, making your country an oasis of calm among many troubles, and not just as a spokeaman for the highest values of Arab civilization, for that too has been Your Majesty's role, but as a lesson to the world of the indomitable spirit of the Arab people and their wish to live in peace, in freedom, and with justice.

In your own speech to the Palestinian National Council last year you said: The justification of the existence of a ruler or leader rests on the fulfillment of his responsibilities with wisdom and courage, with vigor and sincerity. You, Sir, are the example of the truth of that saying.

It is indeed a privilege and pleasure to be in Amman as the first British prime minister in office to visit Jordan, and I thank Your Majesty and the people of Jordan for the warm reception which you have given us.

A former British ambassador described the posting in Amman as "the nearest one is ever likely to get in life to having one's cake and eating it too." I already see why Mr Coles was so keen to come here. [Laughter] Your Majesty, the links between Britain and Jordan are very special. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and I am reminded of the unity of purpose which the peoples of Jordan and Britain shared in those bleak times and of the lead which your late grandfather King 'Abdullah of respected memory — and I pay tribute to him — took in confronting a common threat. We want to strengthen those links in the years ahead. Visits are very important in this.

We always look forward eagerly to Your Majesty's arrival in London and are particularly honored this year that you were present to take the salute of the Royal Tournament in which your Armed Forces performed with such distinction. Her majesty the queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip paid an extremely happy and successful state visit to Jordan as your guests last year. And their royal highnesses the prince and princess of Wales have

told me how touched they were by the warmth of your hospitality this spring.

During my own time here, alas too short, I look forward to seeing some of the British companies, whose presence here is in earnest of our wish to play a part in Jordan's economic development to the benefit of both of us. I believe that there is a capability to extend that cooperation still further. I also look forward in particular to visiting units of your Armed Forces, whose international reputation stands so high and with whom Britain enjoys close links.

But it is inevitable that much of our time should be devoted to discussion of wider Middle East problems, and in particular to the further initiative which Your Majesty took last February. You told me then, I recall, that 1985 represents a special opportunity for peace which must be grasped. I share that belief. But we are now little more than 3 months from the end of the year. We in Britain are ready, and I hope others will be ready, to use that very short period to create the right circumstances for peaceful negotiations.

We need a climate of greater confidence so that all parties will be prepared to take some risks for peace. Peace will not come through violence and terrorism. Peace cannot come if the people in the occupied territories are denied the possibility of living under a system of government in which they can have confidence. It will not come either if any of the parties feel so threatened by actions and statements of others, if it has to give priority to defense over the step into the unknown, which peace would represent.

You, Your Majesty, have worked to change attitudes and you have had striking success. Your Majesty, neither you nor we are interested in palliatives for the Arab-Israel conflict. We are committed to a lasting and comprehensive solution, achieved through peaceful negotiations; a settlement which will be lasting because it is fair, and just because it deals with all the outstanding issues; a settlement which takes into account the legitimate rights of all the peoples and states in the area, including, of course, the Palestinian people; a settlement which commands overwhelming acceptance because it is freely and directly negotiated by trusted representatives of all those involved.

That is a goal which has eluded us for too long, but no one has shown greater determination, nor worked harder than you, Sir, to see it realized. Your efforts — Jordan's effortrs — have our support and encouragement. It is to the success of those efforts, as well as to Your Majesty's health and to the happiness and prosperity of the people of Jordan, that I should like to propose a toast. The health of Your Majesty. [End recording]

Thatcher, Al-Rifa'i Hold Talks

JN191026 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Amman — British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher this morning visited the Prime Ministry where she met with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. During this meeting, the prime minister and Mrs Thatcher reviewed the developments of the Palestine question and the results of the recent contacts with the U.S. Administration.

Prime Minister al-Rifa'i emphasized the need to hold an international conference for peace to which the five permanent member-states of the UN Security Council and all the parties to the dispute should be invited. The British prime minister affirmed the need to find suitable peaceful solutions to the Middle East issue and to move quickly in this direction. She also affirmed the need to continue the contacts between the two countries in order to reach wider coordination. During this meeting they also reviewed bilateral relations in all fields. It was agreed to expand trade between them. Planning Minister Dr 'Abdallah Nusur reviewed at the meeting trade and economic ties between Jordan and Britain and the general outlines of the next 5-year plan, 1986-1990.

The 1-hour meeting was attended by the ministers of foreign affairs, finance, and planning, the Jordanian ambassador in London, and the economic adviser to the Prime Ministry. It was attended on the British side by the British ambassador in Amman and the members of the delegation accompanying Mrs Thatcher.

At the end of the meeting, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the governments of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the United Kingdom.

Military Arms Memorandum Signed

JN190916 Amman Domestic Service in English
0900 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] A memorandum of understanding was signed at the Prime Ministry today between the Jordanian and British Governments in the presence of British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. The memorandum was signed by Dr Hanna 'Awdah, the minister of finance, on behalf of the Jordanian side, and Mr John Coles, the British ambassador to Jordan. According to the memorandum, Britain will supply Jordan with military defensive equipment worth 270 million pounds. The signing of the memorandum is regarded as a prominent indication of the consolidation of Jordanian-British relations.

Husayn, Thatcher Meet 19 Sep

JN191142 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn met with British Prime Kinister Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Al-Nadwah Palace at noon today. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the British ambassador to Jordan attended the meeting.

Prince Hasan Receives Thatcher

JN191357 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpt] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher this morning.

His highness presented a detailed explanation about the development and the future course of economic, social, and scientific development in Jordan. He reviewed with Mrs Thatcher the role which the UK may play in promoting Arab-European relations and affirmed the importance of Britain's role within the European group by supporting Arab causes and developing economic relations between Jordan and the European group. They also discussed the European role in finding a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestine problem.

Thatcher Visits Martyrs Monument

JN190923 Amman Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] British Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher today visited the Martyrs Monument. She was met upon arrival there by the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General Command Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir and a number of high-ranking officers. The British prime minister was accompanied by her husband Mr Dennis Thatcher, the British ambassador in Amman, and the British military attache.

AL-RA'Y on Thatcher Visit, Role

JN190724 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Sep 85 pp 1, 25

[Editorial: "A Visit We Hope Will Succeed"]

[Text] The visit that the British prime minister began to Jordan yesterday is extremely important in light of the objectives hoped from it, foremost being activating the peace process in the region and encouraging the European group to play a more active role in this direction.

While Britain's support for the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, its call on the U.S. and Soviet presidents to take the Middle East issue into consideration in their expected meeting, and Britain's opposition to the arbitrary Israeli measures in the occupied territories are all positive elements in the British stand toward the issue, Britain's agreement on U.S. interference in the selection of the Palestinian members to the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation as well as its rejection of the call for an international conference to solve the issue are negative elements that weaken this stand. Moreover, they reduce the opportunities to activate the peace process in the region and at the same time suggest that the European role is still drawn toward the U.S. stand and has not yet responded to the objective facts which are indispensable for activating the peace process.

Therefore, it is useful to recall that the PLO's selection of its representatives to the delegation is the PLO's own affair that should not be interfered with if there is a real intention for dialogue with the delegation. Moreover, the international conference is the appropriate arena in which the issue can attain a just and comprehensive solution away from hegemony. The real solution is the one reached through the participation of the two superpowers, as well as the permanent UN Security Council member-states and all the parties concerned away from the conflict between the two camps.

Thus, if Mrs Thatcher is destined to understand the Arab viewpoint during her talks with the Jordanian officials and to rid the British stand of its negative aspects, then her visit will become an event that will help activate the peace march in the region and correct the European stand toward it. Perhaps the British prime minister will succeed in this and her talks in Amman will not become part of a vicious circle.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Urges Active Role

JN190715 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 19 Sep 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Toward an Active European Role"]

[Text] In his speech at last night's banquet in honor of British Prime Minister Mrs Margret Thatcher, His Majesty King Husayn emphasized several established facts in Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the Israeli occupation. He explained that peace talks can take place only in an international conference attended by the five permanent member-states of the UN Security Council and all parties to the dispute. He explained that the Palestinian-Jordanian move that crystallized in the historic formula represented by the 11 February accord between Jordan and the PLO — the accord which, as his majesty said, grew out of a shared belief by Jordan and the PLO in the efficacy of joint Arab action for peace — is not a substitute for joint Arab action but part of this action. His majesty also made it a point to emphasize the need for an expanded EC role, especially by Britain, to promote peace efforts. This is what Jordan has always called for out of its belief that the European role can have a great effect on the peace process.

The European role, and especially the British role, has retreated over the past 10 years, after the EC, including Britain, deferred to the United States the task of tackling the Arab-Israeli conflict. This led to conviction in the region and the world that Washington held the key to war and peace and that it possessed 99 percent of the cards.

However, developments in the situation in the region in the past few years and the shuttle tours by various U.S. envoys have all proved that the United States does not possess all the cards and that an international framework, including the USSR, must form the umbrella for any just, comprehensive, and lasting solution.

King Husayn's call yesterday for the reinvigoration of a solid international will that would help create peace and deter Israel from its aggressive, expansionist policy reflects Jordan's conviction on the need for an international effort to end the region's current impasse.

As we welcome Mrs Margaret Thatcher's visit to Jordan, we also note her government's political activity which she began this week to promote peace efforts. We believe that Britain can play a more active and balanced role in the peace process. After all, Britain has long experience with the region's affairs and is most aware of the disaster that befell the Palestinian Arab people and the neighboring states as a result of the continuous Israeli aggression.

There is now a good opportunity for peace. and as His Majesty King Husayn affirmed, this is the last opportunity before increased violence dominates the entire region.

Al-Khatib Receives British Balfour-Led Delegation

JN181136 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Amman —Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib received a delegation from the British Royal College for Defense Studies led by Admiral H. M. Balfour at the Information Ministry this morning.

During the meeting, the minister briefed the delegation on the stages of conflict in the Middle East. He also briefed the delegation on the basic pillars of the Jordanian stand toward a just and comprehensive political solution to the region's crisis through a peace international conference to be attended by all the parties to the conflict in the region and the five permanent member states of the UN Security Council.

The minister explained the importance of the Palestinian- Jordanian agreement signed last February within the framework of achieving a just peaceful settlement of the Palestine question and reactivating peace efforts in the region.

At the end of the meeting, the minister answered the questions posed by the delegation's members which focused on the situation in the region and the importance of peace efforts.

Prince Hasan Meets Delegation

JN181419 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Amman — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received in his office this morning a delegation of the British Royal College for Defense Studies led by Admiral Balfour. His highness reviewed with the guest delegation the situation in the Middle East in general and in the occupied Arab territories in particular. His highness also made a detailed explanation of Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories and ridding them of their original inhabitants. The British ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

AL-RA'Y Optimistic Over Meeting With Syria

JN170757 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Sep 85 pp 1, 25

[Editorial: "The First Step in the Long March"]

[Text] The Syrian-Jordanian meeting began in Jeddah yesterday. With this meeting, it is hoped the stage of estrangement and lack of dialogue and coordination has come to an end to enable the two capitals and all the capitals that are concerned about the Arab nation's objectives and aspirations to start a new and serious pan-Arab action that would foil the enemies' plans and block the road in the face of all the forces that have never sought and do not seek this nation's welfare, victory, and stability.

Our warm welcome of an optimism over the Syrian-Jordanian meeting constitutes clear proof that the current Arab state of affairs is no longer acceptable, and that the continuation of estrangement does not threaten only regimes and leaderships, but also the entire homeland and nation. This meeting is the proper and natural course. Regrettably, however, it has become an exception to the rule in light of the current Arab situation, as if the brothers are not brothers, as if our differences are greater than our objectives and aspirations, and as if our present and future do not represent the entire pan-Arab present and future.

We are confident that Damascus and Amman have been and will continue to be concerned about the unity of ranks and objectives, because the common awareness of the noble objectives, enemy plans, and the magnitude of challenges makes it logical for them to be together and work together. Different interpretations does not mean sacrificing objectives. Moreover, the difference in interpretations does not serve national or pan-Arab interests, and differences in interpretations can only be surmounted by direct meetings and dialogue. The lack of meetings and dialogue deepens estrangement, complicates differences, and allows our enemies to strike at the Arab nation's dear objectives of unity, justice, and stability, and of direct contribution to the march of mankind.

Will the Jeddah meeting be the first step in the solidarity march and the nation's efforts to mobilize its resources and forces to confront the Zionist enemy and all the forces that are hostile to our true salvation? We hope so, and we consider it to be the responsibility of the two fraternal countries. It is a great and noble responsibility before God, nation, and history.

TIMES on Jeddah Talks; Saudi Efforts Praised

JN170713 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Sep 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Eyes on Jeddah Talks"]

[Text] The days when Saudi Arabia chose to leave inter- Arab disputes to simmer, rather than tackle them head on, are over, we hope, with the new drive by Riyadh to clear the Arab atmosphere ahead of the next ordinary Arab summit, scheduled for November of this year. Today, following the start of reconciliation talks between Jordan and Syria, we feel more confident and optimistic about the future of common Arab action if not about the very well-being of our nation.

The task of course is not easy, but there has never been, and there never will be, an alternative to restoring Arab solidarity as the most necessary tool for reasserting Arab presence and strength in all fieds and at all levels. The Saudi leaders surely realise this. They always have. Why they have not moved in force before is their business. But, at any rate, we should be grateful that they are taking the initiative now, confident that they will spare no effort to make their mission of goodwill not only successful but also a programme of action for today and the future.

There are many and important differences in opinion and approach that have to be tackled by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and his Syrian counterpart, 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, in their meetings in Jeddah. Whether all the problems between our

two sister countries can be cleared in one, two or even more sessions, we are not sure. But we can only share in the feeling of "reserved optimism" that is prevailing in Jordan about these talks today.

Evidently the Saudis, particularly Prince 'Abdallah, have to be deeply involved in the process of reconciliation if it is to succeed. Our differences with Syria are not personal, nor are they unconnected to the rest of problems plaguing the Arab World. In fact we have no other problem with the Syrians other than those that are tied directly and indirectly to our Arab brothers, whether they are the Palestinians or the Iraqis or the Lebanese.

Prince 'Abdallah knows the facts on the ground as they are. Without his personal intervention on the side of what is right and just, there can be little hope of achieving the much-needed progress that we all aspire for.

AL-DUSTUR on Results of Syrian-Jordanian Meeting

JN180832 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Sep 85 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Toward More Rapprochement"]

[Text] The press statement by Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the Jeddah meetings between Zayd al-Rifa'i and Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm confirmed a number of points. Perhaps the most important of these points is the optimism the results of these meetings has produced among various Arab circles that believed these meetings represent an achievement in itself compared with the political estrangement existing between many Arab countries in this great homeland.

Although the Jeddah meetings are very important, we realize that they cannot suddenly settle the differences between the two fraternal countries. However, it is clear that these meetings have achieved some fruitful results that are expected to create more positive points and fruitful and responsible dialogue between two countries exposed to common threats and challenges.

Perhaps this dialogue through which Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm achieved tangible success, has urged them to agree on a series of steps that would create a proper atmosphere for promoting relations between the two countries and allow for further rapprochement and cooperation between them within the framework of a commitment to the resolutions of the successive Arab summits.

The agreement on continuing dialogue between the two countries on a set date and in an agreed upon place constitutes a considerable achievement of the Jeddah meetings. They provided an objective possibility for continuing the responsible and direct political contacts between the two fraternal countries' leaders on the various major Arab issues, foremost being the Palestine question, the Arabs' central cause, which necessitates strengthening Arab solidarity to confront Israeli aggression and the Arab nation's enemies.

Those who followed the Jeddah meetings between the two countries' prime ministers with hearts full of hope that these meetings would succeed undoubtedly appreciate the efforts exerted by the committee entrusted with clearing the Arab atmosphere. This matter should urge this committee and other committees formed by the Casablanca summit to continue their good efforts to bring the viewpoints of the concerned Arab capitals closer together in order to restore Arab solidarity as a first basic step on the road to confronting the aggression and regaining the legitimate Arab rights.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Terms Syria-Jordan Talks Positive

JN180921 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 18 Sep 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The Jeddah Meeting Is a Step on a Long Road"]

[Text] The positive results of the Syrian-Jordanian meeting in Jeddah constitute a step on a long road that must be crossed with fraternal spirit and good intentions in order to achieve a common aspired objective through settling some of the Arab differences with all their contradictions and negative points.

Any assessment of the results cannot rise to the level of the importance of the meeting itself because the meeting itself penetrated the wall of estrangement which deepens differences and further complicates the Arab situation. The Jordanian-Syrian talks were held in a calm atmosphere away from the clamor of propaganda. This proves that these talks did not touch on general points but on the essence of differences in a manner that would guarantee the success of these talks and achieve the Jordanian, Syrian, and Arab masses' objectives of unity of stand and joint action.

Although we are confident that the objective and frank explanation of stands and interpretations constitute the basis for constructive dialogue and the pillar of any reconciliation efforts, we also believe that this way of explaining stands would explain and clear the picture and remove the elements of doubt caused by estrangement and external factors that seek to bring Arab relations to the point of no return.

The results of the meetings, regardless of their nature, constitute a prelude for wider steps on the road of reconciliation and understanding between two major parties to the equation of the Arab situation. We hope that these meetings will continue and expand to pave the way for further meetings between all the brothers and to remove the obstacles to the Arab nation's leaders' coming summit in Riyadh.

It is very important that every Arab citizen should appreciate the efforts and distinguished role played by fraternal Saudi Arabia and the Arab committee for clearing Arab atmsopheres in holding this meeting. We hope that the reconciliation committee will continue the same efforts in order to complete its mission in a manner that would restore amity and harmony in the Arab arena and strength and unity to the Arab stand in the interest of the nation's issues and the future of its generations.

Amal on Delegation's Visit to State Department
NC171950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] A responsible source at the Amal Movement has stated that news agencies have reported that the Amal delegation currently visiting Lebanese and Arab communities in the United States has visited the U.S. State Department and has met with some of its officials. The Amal Movement would like to point out that the visit to the State Department, if it did happened, was personally initiated and has not been authorized.

Former Presidents Meet, Issue Statement
NC181923 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpts] The exchanges that took place last weekend had eliminated the reservations some parties had expressed with regard to convening the second Smar Jubayl meeting among former Presidents Camille Sham'un, Sulayman Franjiyah, and Charles Hilu. This second meeting was held today. In addition to the three former presidents, the meeting was attended by National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un; Robert Franjiyah; deputy Khatchik Babikian; former ministers Khalil Abu Hamad, Habib Mutran, and Ilyas Saba; and lawyer Ramiz Khazim.

The meeting began at 1000. Former President Camille Sham'un left the meeting at 1115 and said: The meeting was essential. I hope that we will achieve results that will serve the country's interests. We began the meeting today by appointing a study committee that will submit a report to the conferees. As a result of this report, we will make a decision on convening a national meeting whose resolutions will lead to changing the situation in the country.

Asked about the date of this meeting, former President Sham'un said it had not been fixed.

The three former presidents then resumed their meeting which, aside from being interrupted by a working luncheon, continued until 1700. At the end of the meeting, the following statement was read by former President Charles Hilu:

[Begin Hilu recording] Following our second meeting in Smar Jubayl on 18 September 1985, we, former Presidents Camille Sham'un Charles Hilu, and Sulayman Franjiyah announce that, as we meet for the second time, we constitute no substitute for any political body concerned with general national affairs. We are also not a sectarian grouping to be added to other sectarian groupings. However, we continue to bear the responsibility that we formerly assumed in government. The exacerbating situation and the Lebanese people's suffering on various levels have made it incumbent upon us to resume consultations and deliberations. Within this context we met today and we declare the following:

1. We emphasize our faith in a single, unified, sovereign, and independent Lebanon. Nothing harms Lebanon and weakens the world's and its citizens' confidence in it more than having Lebanon appear as a country incapable of collecting itself and unifying its sons' will. This therefore requires that we expedite the achievement of reconciliation and political reform as soon as possible. The Lebanese people had often agreed on a common future. Sometimes such agreements acquired a legitimate and constitutional nature. The continuation of the war, however, has invalidated these agreements one after the other. The best proof of this lies in the fate of the 14 February 1976 constitutional document which everyone accepted during President Sulayman Franjiyah's tenure. Also as proof are the fate of the 14 reconciliation principles which were announced by the cabinet on 5 March 1980, and the present government's policy statement. It is the continuation of the war that causes the Lebanese people to believe that their agreements are futile. The fact is that whenever the battles continue, the dialogue collapses. This is an endless cycle and, as a result, the Lebanese crisis and the tragedies resulting from it do not end. Therefore, we believe that any agreement will regrettably remain useless unless it is accompanied by a true and effective will to completely halt the war and the fighting. This is a necessary requirement for new agreements to succeed.

2. We assert that the sound means and the primary condition for ending the Lebanese crisis is a comprehensive reconciliation stemming from a general national dialogue that embraces all the Lebanese communities and parties and that reemphasizes their will to coexist according to their inherited traditions of fraternity and harmony while repudiating the language of weapons.

3. The definition of the Christian lines and stand is a necessity and an inevitable prelude to opening the door to a national dialogue among the various Lebanese parties. It is out of the question that our present endeavors should have a different meaning. In order to embark on this dialogue, we must combine and study all the proposals that have been presented. The goal is to compile a common and unified vision that would constitute a basis for dialogue and that would help to unite the Lebanese people's stand on its future and its destiny. This is an urgent step that is not confined to one aspect. It should also include the economic and social aspects in order to dispense justice and to ensure equal opportunities. The security aspect should also be included in addition to the subject of Lebanon's international and Arab relations, particularly its special relationship with Syria.

4. We have agreed on several arrangements for holding the much-needed national conference and for ensuring its success. A preparatory Christian meeting will be held as soon as possible and various Christian groups will participate.

5. We call on all the Lebanese brothers, everywhere and from every party, who are truly concerned with the interests of this beloved country, to immediately halt the fighting and to dedicate themselves to terminating the internecine war. We also call upon the security forces to expose any party that fires the first shot.

6. The plight of a large segment of the Lebanese people prompt us to make an earnest and urgent plea to all official and unofficial social and religious institutions to rush to the aid of the displaced. We ask that they help the displaced of all communities, whom the war has forced out of their houses. The evacuees should return to their homes to reestablish the multi-communal coexistence that we all cherish.

Our position, which we have just defined, is based entirely on national grounds. It stems from the need to resolve the problems that hinder reconciliation. We all hope that the aforesaid principals will materialize to the benefit of Lebanon's supreme interests.

[Signed] Sulayman Franjiyah, Charles Hilu, Camille Sham'un. [end recording]

Violent Clashes Reported in Mountain Areas

NC170749 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0540 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] According to the latest security reports the shelling of Al-Hadath and Boulevard Camille Sham'un has intensified. Our security correspondent reports that violent fighting involving the use of various types of weapons is taking place along a line extending from Al-Tayyunah to Kafr Shima. Violent clashes are also raging in the area of Suq al-Gharb.

Tripoli Fighting Continues 18, 19 Sep

18 Sep Casualties

NC181332 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Fierce fighting continues in Tripoli despite the efforts of the Security Committee, which called a cease-fire to begin at 1115 today. Clashes involving the use of all available weapons are occuring in Al-Qubbah, Harat al-Sayyidah, Al-Amrikan, Al-Sha'rani, Suria Street, the Wheat Market, Tal'at al-'Umari, Harat al-Barraniyah, and Harat al-Baqqar. Shells are also straying into the residential areas close to the combat lines. All city life has been completely paralyzed. In today's fighting, 25 people were killed and 77 were wounded.

Combatants Specified

NC181452 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpts] The clashes in Tripoli have become more violent since 1630 today. The fighting in Tripoli continued this afternoon between gunmen of the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party's Red Knights. The clashes intensified at times and eased at others.

Shelling, Evacuations Reported

NC181552 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] For the 4th straight day, Tripoli has been subjected to concentrated shelling. Shells are falling from every direction. Ferocious fighting is reportedly raging now. Citizens have been evacuated from their homes and are reportedly heading toward 'Akkar.

Areas of Control Reported

NC181715 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Observers said today that despite the various exchanges, meetings, and appeals to put an end to the fighting, the city's combat lines and residential areas remain the scene of very violent clashes. According to security reports, the Islamic Unification Movement's gunmen, with intensive support from 'Arafat followers, are currently controlling several areas in Tripoli, including Al-Tabbanah and the port area. The 'Arafat followers are controlling the Citadel and Abu Samra areas.

During today's fighting, the Islamic Unification Movement gunmen broke into Nashshaba Hospital on Syria Street. This prompted the Arab Democratic Party's gunmen to impose a military cordon around the hospital. Clashes broke out which left five Islamic Unification Movement gunmen dead.

Clashes Resume 19 Sep

NC190729 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0715 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Violent clashes are reported in Tripoli following a flare-up in the security situation at 0845 this morning. The warring factions are exchanging artillery and rocket shelling in the areas of the port, 'Azmi Street, Al-Mi'atayn, Al-Tall, the Quarantine, Al-Qubbah, Al-Mallul, and Abu Samra.

Further Details

NC191135 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpts] For the fifth consecutive day, Tripoli is suffering from a security deterioration in all its quarters, which continues to result in more victims, damage, and fires. Six people were killed and 66 others were wounded in clashes this morning. Violent fighting erupted after having abated for a while. Shells fell on places located far from the scene of clashes, completely paralyzing the city's activities. All efforts to stop the deterioration have failed.

Amal-PSP Clash in West Beirut 18 Sep

NC181902 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1815 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpts] A state of extreme tension currently prevails in and around the Al-Sana'i' area following the clashes that broke out this evening between Amal gunmen and Junblatt's followers. Artillery and rockets were used in the fighting. According to security reports, three people have been killed in the Al-Hamra' area. Clashes between Amal gunmen and Junblatt's followers broke out when Amal gunmen premeditatedly assassinated Hisham al-Amir, a progressive Socialist Party [PSP] official in West Beirut near the Bristol area. A state of alert has been declared among the gunmen in the area, including among the relatives of the murdered official.

Meanwhile, an unidentified person contacted us tonight and claimed that he was speaking on behalf of the 'Ali Ayyub suicide group. The caller reported that the group assassinated Hisham al-Amir and Khalil al-Ghadban at 1730 today. The caller threatened to carry out other operations against all those who were involved in the assassination of 'Ali Ayyub.

Al-Asad Urged To End Tripoli, Beirut Fighting

NC181504 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The Islamic gathering held today under Mufti Shaykh Hasan Khalid called on the leaders of the various armed groups to act quickly and seriously to halt the fighting, the bloodbaths, and the destruction. The gathering appealed to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to use all means to put a final end to the bloody incidents in Tripoli.

The Islamic gathering called for expediting the reopening of the crossing points between the two sectors of Beirut and for returning the kidnapped people to their families. It also denounced kidnappings at the crossing points, as well as the kidnappings and torment to which the Christian citizens are subjected in West Beirut. This is contrary to the teachings of Islam and inconsistent with the atmosphere of fraternity that has prevailed in the area.

Suicide Operation Hits Lahd Checkpoint in South

NC181602 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1551 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] A Lebanese resistance hero carried out an outstanding suicide operation this afternoon against a checkpoint manned by agent Lahd militiamen in Ra's al-Bayyadah near the so-called security belt in the south. The operation resulted in killing many Lahd militiamen and Israeli intelligence personnel. As usual, Israeli radio said that there have been no casualties.

Other Positions Attacked

NC171316 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] National resistance fighters carried out a series of daring operations against the enemy and its agents last night and this morning. The Martyr Muhammad Hamdan group attacked the Al-Haqban positions in Tallat Kafra, held by agent Lahd militiamen, at 0900. The group opened machinegun fire at the parapets of the position, killing one person and wounding another who had been stationed there. In retaliation, agent Lahd's forces directed mortar and machinegun fire at the hills around the position.

Another resistance group stormed a position held by agent Lahd militiamen in the Al-Hamra area at 0300 today. The group managed to take control of the position after killing or wounding most of its personnel. A national resistance fighter was slightly wounded in the operation.

Yesterday evening, Katyushas were fired at Qal'at al-Shaqif and Arnun, where a large number of occupation forces and their agents are stationed. Losses cannot be determined because a security cordon has been thrown around the area.

Another group attacked a position held by agent Lahd near Mazra'at al-Salihani last night, scoring direct hits. The Humayyid position, near the town of Bidri, also came under katyusha fire.

National resistance fighters used mortars to attack a position held by Lahd militiamen in Yatar at 2030 yesterday, scoring direct hits. The agent forces then combed the area, firing in all directions. Another resistance group attacked the Marj 'Uyun barracks and an Israeli enemy position in Tall al-Nahas with katyusha's last night. However, losses cannot be determined.

Beirut: Group Claims Rome Grenade Attack

NC191024 Paris AFP in English 1015 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Beirut, Sept 19 (AFP) — A group that has claimed responsibility for several attacks against U.S. and British interests said today that it had carried out a grenade attack that injured 38 Monday in a central Rome restaurant. The group, the Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Moslems, said the restaurant, the Cafe de Paris, was a U.S.-British intelligence centre.

The group had earlier claimed the kidnapping on March 25 of Alec Collett, a British U.N. official in Lebanon. Mr. Collett is apparentiy still being held. It also said, at the same time as another group, that it was behind bomb and automatic [as received] raids on the U.S. TWA, British Airways and Jordanian Alia airline offices in Madrid on July 1.

In Monday's Rome attack, the Cafe de Paris, a well-known tourist haunt on the Via Veneto, was hit by a grenade probably thrown from a car. Police said later they arrested a Lebanese-born Palestinian suspect.

Today's claim, dated yesterday and distributed here today, called the restaurant "one of the centres of joint American-British information services, whose activities are supervised by the Zionist information service."

The attack, it added, was carried out by the "Abu Dharr al-Ghaffari" martyr group, which regained its base after destroying the centre.

The statement said the group had warned several times it would "spread destruction where American imperialist soldiers, and agents" were based. It urged all tourists, particularly Arab, not to visit Italy, Spain or Britain so as not to fall victim to future attacks.

Karami Asked To Lodge Complaint Against 'Arafat

NC181200 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] A responsible source in the 24 October Movement called on Prime Minister Rashid Karami today to stop threatening to resign and to take a courageous step instead, by lodging a

complaint with the Arab League and the UN Security Council against Yasir 'Arafat, on the charge of endangering Lebanon's security and integrity and of violating the agreement stipulating the departure of his forces from Tripoli.

The source said: Proof to substantiate this charge is available. Yasir 'Arafat has returned to Tripoli under the flag of the Islamic Unification Movement and via the Al-Jarnaq Brigade, whose members are exploiting the city's vital facilities and using its ports to bring in all kinds of weapons and to smuggle drugs all over the world. The source accused 'Arafat's forces of shelling the army barracks in Al-Qubbah from their positions in Ra's al-Sakhr, which are under the command of Munzir Abu Ghazalah, one of 'Arafat's aides. The shelling resulted in a large number of martyrs and wounded.

Birri Threatens To Put End to Supply Blockade
NC181951 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Minister Nabih Birri met today with former minister Marwan Hamadah, Muhsin Dallul, and 'Abdallah al-Amin. They discussed the security situation, the supply crisis, and political developments. Minister Birri also met with a delegation of Syrian observers. The talks dealt with the security situation. In a statement at the end of his meetings today, Minister Birri said: It is strange that the issue of bread had not been involved in the seditious war over the past 10 years. Involving this issue in the war now is one of the most serious elements in the plot against the Lebanese. We have outlined our views to the government representatives. We also pointed out to them the consequences that might emerge from the blockade imposed on the national areas. We urged the authorities to find an immediate solution to this blockade. It is no longer a secret that the ship which is supposed to have unloaded wheat in Sidon, has been anchored in Beirut port since yesterday evening. The ship has not yet been loaded with the wheat. This forces us to take extraordinary measures to put an end to this blocakde regardless of the cost.

On his meeting with Salim Salam, Minister Birri said that discussions revolved around the issue of the airport and the Middle East Airlines [MEA]. He declared: We have to protect this institution, which represents one of the remaining mainstays of the Lebanese economy. The Lebanese economy, Minister Birri added, is the subject of a vicious plot. He said: I have given instructions and directives to ensure the safety of the airport and the safety of those using the Al-Kafa'at road on their way to and from the airport until the other crossing points are reopened. I have also ordered that the MEA property be protected. violators shall be punished.

Minister Birri laudd the Lebanese resistance in the south which has stepped up its military operations.

CSSR Deputy Premier, Delegation Here for Talks

JN161353 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1302 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus, 16 Sep, (SANA) — CSSR Deputy Premier Josef Korcak and the accompanying delegation arrived here today on a visit to Syria lasting several days. During the visit Korcak will hold talks dealing with issues and subjects of mutual concern, as well as discuss ways to bolster existing relations between Syria and the CSSR. The CSSR official will also visit the Damascus International Fair to become aquainted with this important economic demonstration which held every year.

Al-Ahmar Confers With Polish Science Minister

JN181335 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, received Professor Benon Miskiewicz, Polish minister of science, higher education, and technology, and the accompanying delegation before noon today. Minister of Higher Education Kamal Sharaf and the Polish ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. After welcoming the guest delegation, the comrade assistant secretary general spoke about the existing and developing relations between Syria and Poland. Al-Ahmar pointed to the cooperation in the educational and cultural fields and the possibility of benefiting from Polish expertise in educational training at all levels.

The comrade assistant secretary general talked about developments in Syria at all levels, particularly following the Corrective Movement led by Comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic. Al-Ahmar referred to the role assumed by Syria in confronting the imperialist and Zionist plans, which are aimed against the Arab region, the Arab people's struggle, and their central cause. He hailed the support of Poland and the other friends among the socialist bloc countries for the struggle of Syria and the Arab nation in confronting the Zionist entity's aggression in order to attain the just objectives of the Arab struggle. He wished the friendly Polish people further progress and success.

The Polish minister of higher education praised Syria's progress and development, particularly in the field of university education. He commended the policy adopted by the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, Comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, on the national path and the path of construction, development, and progress.

Al-Asad Receives Gabonese Official, Message

JN181337 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1250 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Sep (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received Gabonese Presidential Adviser (Arizani Mohamed) and a message from Gabonese President El-Haj Omar Bongo at 1130 today.

PLF Condemns 'Arafat's 'Treasonous Course'

JN171656 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus — The Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF] has affirmed that Yasir 'Arafat still continues with his capitulatory and treasonous course and with splitting the Paelstinian resistance factions. In a statement issued by the PLF Central Committee today, the PLF explained that Yasir 'Arafat, who abandoned the rifle and adopted capitulatory schemes, organized a meeting with a group of those dismissed by the PLF in Tunis — a meeting which 'Arafat called the seventh congress of the PLF. During this meeting Muhammad Zaydan 'Abbas was elected PLF secretary general. This is an expression of 'Arafat's eagerness to split Palestinian factions which opted for armed struggle as their course.

Concluding its statement, the PLF affirmed that it will continue to struggle along with all democratic and nationalist forces in order to defend the Palestinian people and their struggle. It affirmed that it will confront and expose all means of sabotage in the Palestinian arena.

TISHRIN Warns Israel Against Aggression

JN180738 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israeli Movements" *TISHRIN* says: The news about Israel's deployment of medium-range missiles on the Golan Heights is not new as the Western press mentioned this some 3 months ago. However, what is new is the political atmosphere that prevails in the region in light of which Israel based its military move on the Golan. Following Zionist war minister Yitzhaq Rabin's threats, Israeli Chief of Staff Moshe Levi, in a statement on 3 September 1985, said that Israel is taking technical measures to bolster the infratructure of its ground forces on the Golan, and that the Israeli Army has learned political and military lessons from the war in Lebanon. The next day, 4 September, and at the end of an Israeli military maneuver on the Golan, General Yitzhaq Mordekhay said that Israel is preparing to confront the real Syrian danger beccause the Syrian Army has the capability of moving its forces quickly.

It goes without saying that these Israeli movements and statements are of a hostile nature and cannot be concealed by the reasons that Israeli military leaders have been mentioning. Syria has always been a source of danger to the schemes of the Arab nation's enemies. Israel always preceded its aggressions by leveling accusations at Syria. From this premise, we understand the cause of the hatred that is contained in the enemy leaders' threats. The Zionist rancor against Syria is not linked to its historic roots only but is also a sign of what Israel has in mind for the region in the future. For example, Israel is now trying to give some life to the capitulatory deal the United States is working to achieve through the ill-omened 11 February agreement, agreement into which British Prime Minister Thatcher is trying to infuse life during her tour of the region.

TISHRIN adds: In any case, Israel does not need any excuses to justify any aggression it prepares for in the region. It has always sought the necessary justification through its plans with the United States. It knows what to do with the Arabs and what it wants from them as long as the Arabs are in a weaker position, as long as they are unable to attain an effective Arab solidarity that would check its aggression and confront the Zionist-U.S. provocations against this region, and as long as some Arabs continue to pat after the U.S. mirage. In all cases, Syria is not scared by Israel's threats and stressed that any military action against it will be decisively confronted, making Israel repent as it did in Lebanon.

File Sent to U.S. on 'Arafat Terrorist Activity

TA190534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Israel has transmitted to the United States confidential intelligence proving beyond a shadow of a doubt that Yasir 'Arafat is personally involved in planning terrorist attacks and is lying when he says that he has forsaken the path of terrorism. This is reported by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal.

The intelligence file given to the U.S. President includes details of demonstrative attacks 'Arafat had planned for Galilee, attempts to infiltrate terrorist squads into Israel by sea to carry out mass attacks, and further confidential information proving conclusively that 'Arafat is involved in all of the above.

Defense establishment sources have told our correspondent that the information that has been passed on will bolster the positions of administration officials, including President Reagan, who object to the inclusion of the PLO in the political process.

Peres Briefs Shamir on New Tabah Proposal

TA181607 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] Prior to the Inner Cabinet meeting this morning, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres conferred with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and explained to him the new proposal which was discussed during the latest contacts between his office and President Husni Mubarak's office. According to his proposal, a tripartite Israeli-U.S.-Egyptian conference would be held for 6 weeks, during which the different ideas for a compromise on the Tabah issue — such as the establishment of a joint peace center in the disputed territory — would be debated. The delegation of directors general — headed by Avraham Tamir, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, and David Kimche, director general of the Foreign Ministry — would represent Israel at the talks. At the same time, a special subcommittee would formulate the letter of arbitration. If mutual agreement on conciliation is not reached, the obligatory legal arbitration over the disputed territory would begin after 6 weeks.

Shamir heard the assessment that the Egyptians did not consent to the conciliation stage only to bait Israel into arbitration and that, in fact, a real change in the Egyptian position has taken place and they are currently seeking a compromise they had previously rejected. Perhaps this is because they are not so certain about winning through arbitration.

Shamir listened to the proposal and did not reject it outright. He asked for time to discuss the issue in the framework of the Likud ministers forum, which meets regularly every Wednesday afternoon. The Inner Cabinet dicussion was therefore postponed and may still take place sometime this week.

According to remarks by Shamir and his associates, it appears that the proposal is not acceptable to him. He believes that the Egyptians are not serious in their intentions regarding the conciliation stage. In any event, he has adopted the approach: Let us wait; there is no need to hurry. He pointed out that he is scheduled to meet with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid in New York next week, when he will have the opportunity to hear the official Egyptian position.

We should add that the Americans have recently also been active concerning the issue. Last night Ambassador Thomas Pickering visited Yitzhaq Shamir's residence in Jerusalem, bringing with him a letter from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz urging Israel to reach a decision on the Tabah issue.

Shamir, then, must make a decision this evening — with the backing of his colleagues, the Likud ministers — on whether he accepts the prime minister's stand, which it seems is also the position of Cairo and Washington, or whether for some reason he prefers to reject it.

Meanwhile I would like to point out Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' remarks in interviews on the eve of the holiday to the effect that the premiership rotation and the unity government's survival is conditional on the implementation of other clauses in the coalition agreement which deal with the continuation of the peace process. The coming days may be a test for this declaration by the prime minister.

Shamir Comments on Tabah, Rotation Agreement

TA181153 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Gid'on Remez on 18 September; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Remez] Mr Shamir, if a joint position between you and the prime minister on the Tabah issue has still not been determined, how urgent and essential do you consider reaching such a stand, both as far as the Egyptians and the peace process are concerned, and as regards the future of the government?

[Shamir] I do not consider this matter at all urgent or essential. This is one of the disputed issues between us and Egypt, and it needs to be discussed. Some sort of solution must be found that will be acceptable both to us and to the Egyptians. I regret that there are differences of opinion on this subject among us internally, and it would be better if were there a united stand. I must say that the position of the Israeli Government since 1978, before the Tabah issue even arose, was that in cases of this type we prefer conciliation. The Egyptians have always said they prefer arbitration; they even added international arbitration. Israel's position has always been consistent.

As for the state of the national unity government, I do not think there is any connection between this problem and the problem of the state or performance of the national unity government. The coalition agreement, which is the basis of this government, does not stipulate in any of its clauses that the Likud has to accept the Alignment's position on the Tabah issue or that the Alignment must accept the Likud's position. Here, each side must try to persuade the other.

[Remez] Do you mean that you do not regard progress on this issue as an essential condition for the survival or continuation of the government or for maintaining the rotating premiership agreement?

[Shamir] I do not believe there is any condition in any of the clauses for upholding the agreement. The rotation clause is a key clause in the agreement. This is understandable because without rotation the government would not have been established and negotiations on its establishment would not have been held. Thus, I am amazed when people link this matter with that of rotation. If this is the case, reasons to complicate the agreement can always be found, if of course someone wants to find such reasons.

Defends Likud Stand

TA170942 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has explained that the Likud will not deviate from its principles by even a millimeter in order to guarantee the rotation. Minister Shamir was reacting to remarks Prime Minister Peres made to our political correspondent to the effect that he will be released from the rotation agreement if the Likud paralyzes the government in the political field. Minister Shamir explained that the party is standing firm to guard all the coalition agreement clauses, but especially the clauses which negate negotiations with the PLO, which only permit negotiations with Jordan within the framework of the Camp David agreement, which prevent any compromise over territory without the Likud's agreement, and which favor the further development and populating of all the settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District.

Rabin on Tabah Deadlock, Effects on Coalition

TA190709 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by announcer Yitzhaq Ro'e and political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on 18 September — live]

[Text] [Ro'e] Good morning, Mr Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

[Rabin] Good morning.

[Ro'e] How do you think the deadlock [over Tabah] can be broken?

[Rabin] First we should understand what the issue is all about. We believe that we are dealing with saving the peace with Egypt. For 3 years the issue — one facet of which is the demarcation of the international border and the other involving normalization between Egypt and Israel — has been frozen. We attribute great significance to the economic program that is intended to pull the economy out of its distress, to the termination of our military involvement in Lebanon and the return to a reasonable defense policy, and to the advancement of the peace process by first of all ensuring that the historic achievement of signing the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel does not deteriorate from peace into a frozen peace and into God knows what.

[Ro'e] So what is your reaction to the vice prime minister's statement that there is no hurry, and that the issue is not half as pivotal as people — or you — have been trying to make it.?

[Rabin] This is a matter of assessment and point of view. I believe the entire issue of peace with Egypt is actually being put to the test — not by the question of 1 or 6 months, but actually with regard to the direction the process will take: a positive direction, or a retreat from peace. We believe it is necessary to implement all the agreements on normalization, signed by the then Israeli Government in a comprehensive framework. Thus, with regard to the agreement on the line marking the international border, attempts have been made for 3 years to first reach an agreement on it through negotiations; then, when this failed, two alternatives remained as stipulated by the agreement: either conciliation or arbitration. Conciliation does not involve a decision, and it actually constitutes a form of arbitration which neither party is obligated to accept. I do not think that as far as Tabah — or that part of it which is important to us — is concerned, we should present matters as though we are unsure, we have doubts, or we may be mistaken about determining the borderline. By the same token, I believe that Egypt feels overconfident and is convinced that arbitration will result in the return of Tabah to its territory. I think Egypt is bound to face some unpleasant surprises if this is what it thinks.

[Ro'e] I want to return to the question of the way out of the coalition deadlock, now that we understand our problem with Egypt.

[Rabin] First we must ask ourselves what we are talking about, because had the issue been marginal or secondary, that would have been another matter. I think the question is whether peace with Egypt will begin to march in the direction of a transformation from nonbelligerence to a state of real peace. After all, the current chances for progress toward peace on other fronts are far more limited. I believe that progress toward peace with Egypt can also open new possibilities.

[Schiffer] Is that why you are presently ready to support the position which says that the government should disband if no solution is found that would promote peace?

[Rabin] I think at this stage one thing should be made clear: The Alignment has a reason for being in the Cabinet. Some goals have either already been achieved or are in the process of being achieved: the withdrawal from Lebanon, the economic improvements. But I cannot foresee the Alignment remaining in the Cabinet another 3 years if there is no chance whatsoever of improving peace with Egypt or seeking peace possibilities along our eastern front.

[Schiffer] This is precisely why I cannot comprehend your remarks. If I understand correctly, you definitely support the concept that if all the above is impossible, the Alignment should quit?

[Habin] I did not say this.

[Schiffer] So what are you actually saying?

[Rabin] At the moment, we are examining the alternatives. I cannot see us accepting a situation in which every political possibility for bolstering peace with Egypt is frozen.

[Schiffer] I have another question, if you please. Could you address remarks by some Likud ministers during the [Inner Cabinet] session? Minister Ari'el Sharon has constantly said that we must talk to Egypt from a position of strength; Minister Moshe Arens has said that Tabah is a populated, developed area. As defense minister, is there any strategic value to the Tabah area, and how do you react to the Likud ministers' view on the position of strength from which we should talk to the Egyptians?

[Rabin] From the security point of view, all the contentious bilateral issues regarding the border demarcation have no prime importance. In view of the fact that we gave up the Sinai, the Rafah Approaches, Sharm al-Shaykh, and the 'Ezyon airfield, it seems to me that any attempt to turn the existing issues into a security problem is absurd.

As for the arguments that have been raised, I simply do not understand them. It seems to me that those who so firmly object to arbitration must be afraid that their argument has no firm basis. In April 1982 the previous government signed an agreement with Egypt that stipulates that if the negotiations on the border demarcation fail, it will be possible to proceed to either conciliation or arbitration. I am not afraid of arbitration; I think the Egyptians have to worry about it, if we reach a situation in which a reasonable arbitration paper is formulated outlining the purpose of arbitration as determining the location of the international border to which we have undertaken to withdraw, and not the location of the border demarcation stones, which was a demand the Egyptians raised at the time. Thus, for example, if in deliberations on formulating the arbitration paper the Egyptians insist that the purpose of arbitration is locating the border stones — or where they used to be — I, too, will object to such arbitration. Arbitration should concentrate on the international border. I do not think that you show weakness by expressing readiness to accept arbitration. If I believe that I am right, I have nothing to fear from arbitration.

Stalemate Continues in Tabah Discussions

Likud Decides on Conciliation

TA181957 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The Likud ministers this evening unanimously decided to continue to support a solution to the Tabah problem by means of conciliation rather than arbitration. Vice Prime Minister Shamir will present this position to the Inner Cabinet, which met a short while ago to discuss the Tabah dispute. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports:

It can be assumed that the prime minister will not hold a vote in the Inner Cabinet this evening so as to avoid a tie on the Tabah issue. This morning Peres and Rabin tried to convince Yitzhaq Shamir to uphold Egypt's consent to the Israeli proposal that stipulates conciliation for a limited period of time which, in the event of a failure, will be followed by binding arbitration.

The Likud ministers say they will accept only a serious process of conciliation which will not be limited in time and will not be carried out for the sake of form. During the Likud ministers' meeting Minister Sharon attacked the moves and contacts made with Egypt, saying he knows of a number of moves by Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, which were carried out without Yitzhaq Shamir's knowledge. Minister Moda'i, who earlier raised a compromise proposal of his own, this evening supported Minister Shamir's position that we should not now make a concession to Egypt on the Tabah issue.

Some believe Shamir wants to gain and reach an agreement with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid when he meets with him in New York in about 2 weeks. As is well known, Peres views the deadlock on the Tabah issue as a test for the entire political process. He has already told Shamir that if the deadlock continues, the forces pressuring Egypt to abandon the road of peace will increase.

Shim'on Peres, together with his colleagues, the Alignment ministers who will meet at his house later tonight, will have to decide whether to ask the Egyptians for another time extension or to view the Likud's decision as a threat to the integrity of the government.

Inner Cabinet in 'Deadlock'

TA182110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] There is still a deadlock in the Inner Cabinet on the Tabah affair. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that during this evening's meeting the Likud and the Alignment remained firm in their positions. The Likud ministers totally rejected the proposals worked out with the Egyptian president, saying that part of the government encourages Egypt not to agree to a compromise [peshara]. The prime minister and defense minister firmly rejected the Likud's position, emphasizing it was the Likud which returned the Sinai and undertook to return to the international border.

After the Inner Cabinet meeting Mr Peres convened the Alignment ministers at his residence. Their meeting is still under way and is characterized by a tense atmosphere. The participants are discussing the possibilities open to the prime minister in view of the tie in the Inner Cabinet.

Alignment Ministers Make Proposal

TA190523 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The Alignment ministers and the prime minister believe that the Alignment can no longer ignore the political stalemate, particularly with regard to relations with Egypt. This is reported by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer.

In consultations held at Shim'on Peres' initiative at his residence last night, some ministers proposed that he raise in the Cabinet a unilateral plan for handling the Tabah dispute, as worked out with the Egyptian president. The ministers believe that some partners to the coalition would support this proposal and that the Likud would not leave the government over it. Other proposals regarding a dissolution of the coalition were rejected.

Reagan Sends New Year Greetings to Peres

TA182017 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1950 GMT 18 Sep 85

["Announcement by the Spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 Sep (ITIM) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan transmitted a message to Israel's Prime Minister Shim'on Peres via his ambassador, Thomas Pickering:

"Now, when the people in Israel are celebrating the beginning of the new year, I will take this opportunity to convey my best wishes.

"This is a special opportunity to look back on the achievements of the past year and to look forward to the opportunities and challenges in the new year.

"I draw a great deal of satisfaction from the warm Israeli-U.S. relations, which are characterized by the highest degree of cooperation between our governments.

"I know that we will continue to work closely as partners in the search for peace.

"With happy holiday wishes, Ronald Reagan"

Bethlehem Mayor Criticizes U.S. Attitude

PM170951 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 10 Sep 85 p 3

[Interview with Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Furayj by Hisham Milhim in Washington; date not given]

[Text] Question: How do you assess [U.S. envoy] Murphy's recent tour, and why did he not meet with a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation as expected by some?

Answer: The Americans are setting impossible conditions for the Arabs to meet, but they do not ask Israel to show any goodwill or make an encouraging move such as suspending settlements or easing measures against the Palestinians, or any other encouraging initiative.

I do not believe the Americans can be relied upon to take a more positive attitude. They are opposed to an international conference and reject Soviet participation. How can the Arabs be sure of any chances of success in negotiations when they know that their Israeli enemy depends on the United States?

Question: What options remain for the PLO and Jordan after the Arab summit conference and Murphy's tour?

Answer: We now have a deadlock. In a few weeks the United Nations will begin its session, which will be an extraordinary session because it falls on the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. Many Arab kings and presidents will attend this occasion, as will a large number of world leaders. Regional affairs are expected to be discussed, and this will be followed by a summit conference between the two superpowers. I do not believe the Gorbachev-Reagan meeting will produce any positive results for us.

The Israeli settlements have led to a situation which is more than difficult for us. Our situation may now be impossible to change. That raises the following question: What is there to negotiate about? The United States should prove that it believes in the "land for peace" principle and should stop making Palestinian recognition of UN Resolution 242 a precondition for starting negotiations because the "land for peace" principle represents the essence of Resolution 242. The United States wants the PLO to recognize Israel's existence and I believe there is no harm in this in principle, but what would Israel give us in return for such recognition?

Question: How do you assess the recent Arab summit conference?

Answer: The summit conference could not have achieved any more than it did in the present Arab circumstances and it could not have made more far-reaching decisions because our political situation is bad and our economic situation worse. I believe that neither a military nor a political solution to the Palestinian problem is possible at present. We now only have one Arab option, which is that we should help ourselves and the rest of the Arab world should help us survive and stand fast under occupation. Such steadfastness cannot be achieved through empty slogans. Its economic and political requirements should be met.

We need hospitals, schools, water and electricity networks, and other economic projects to enable us to stay and not move out. We call on the Arab world to help us and thus enable us to provide the necessary minimum services for the Palestinians.

Question: You have always called for and expected more positive U.S. steps, but now you are expressing disappointment with Washington's attitude. Is that connected with the current stalemate or is there more to it than that?

Answer: The Americans are happy with the Jewish lobby and they are always demonstrating some kind of hostility to the Arabs. If we do not change our ways their position will not change. The Arab world is passing through a difficult stage in its modern history.

Question: What about your meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres? Was it necessary, and did you discuss with him the names of Palestinian candidates for negotiations?

Answer: We discussed a number of local and regional political issues but not the names list because he had already received the list on that day. I do not want to comment any further on this matter.

Question: Before the list, which does not include your name, was submitted, you were mentioned as a possible negotiator. Was the matter raised with you in advance?

Answer: I do not know about that. What I do know is that nobody raised the issue with me. Frankly, it was a relief that my name was not included because in the present circumstances joining such a process is like committing political suicide.

Question: What do you think of the West Bank and Gaza candidates, and what reaction has there been to their choice?

Answer: Mr Sinyorah and Mr Abu Rahmah are my friends and are fully qualified to play the part. Abu Rahmah is an able lawyer and Sinyorah a good and able journalist and politician, but I believe that Murphy's recent tour was not well-timed.

ASL Soldiers Blow Up Booby-Trapped Car 18 Sep

TA181534 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1527 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] A booby-trapped car exploded about 30 minutes ago outside the security zone in southern Lebanon, near an army of southern Lebanon [ASL] roadblock in Ra's al-Bayyadah. The driver of the car, which was a Mercedes, was killed.

Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that the car contained over 100 kg of explosives. The ASL soldiers fired at the car suspecting it was booby-trapped.

Our correspondent adds that the ASL soldiers have recently apprehended 26 terrorists of the Hizballah organization in the Bint Jubayl area of the security zone. They are suspected of perpetrating terrorist acts against the ASL soldiers.

One Sentenced for Attempt on Dome of Rock

TA182033 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The Jerusalem District Court has sentenced Shim'on Barda of the Lifta gang to 8 years in prison. He was convicted of trying to blow up the Dome of the Rock Mosque on the Temple Mount in January 1984.

Our correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports that the court declared two of Barda's accomplices who were brought to trial on the same charge insane and ordered their hospitalization.

A third accomplice fled the country before the trial. Our correspondent adds that before the sentence was handed down Barda's attorney asked that the court give him a penalty comparable to that given to the Jewish underground leaders for similar acts.

Organized Tours to PRC Now Offered to Citizens

TA181058 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Sep 85 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Several Israeli travel agencies are now organizing tours and trips to the PRC that will be open to Israeli citizens as well. One such group of travelers is due to visit the PRC during the week of Sukkoth [30 September-7 October], and another group is currently being organized.

Eddie Friedman of "Adiv Tours," a Netanya travel agency, has told *DAVAR* that his agency has business ties with the "Jules Verne Holidays" travel agency in London, which is organizing the tour for him. He claimed that representatives of the British office have approached the PRC Embassy in London and learned that Israelis will now be allowed to visit the PRC.

According to Friedman, to date only dual-citizenship Israelis have been able to do so. The package, which includes a flight to London, followed by a tour of Beijing, Shanghai, and other Chinese cities, as well as Hong Kong, costs $2,890 and includes full board. Another travel agent, Avidan Aviv, has told *DAVAR* that his agency is organizing tours to the PRC via an agency in Hong Kong, and that some Israelis have already been granted entry visas.

Jerusalem Foreign Ministry officials have refused to comment on the report, noting that those involved are private businessmen who have no official ties with Israel. Nor could they say whether the Chinese readiness to begin granting Israelis entry visas marks a change in Beijing's foreign policy.

Briefs

Annual Population Census — Israel's population is now 4,255,000 — 82.5 per cent Jews, 13.5 per cent Moslems, 2.3 per cent Christians and 1.7 per cent Druse and others, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported. In the Jewish year ending today the population grew by about 1.8 per cent. The Jewish population increased by 1.6 per cent and the Moslem population by about 3.2 per cent. Of the 99,000 infants born over the last year some 75,000 were Jewish. For the first time in many years there are more Jews in the Galilee than Arabs, Interior Ministry figures from August show. The Jewish population of the Galilee is 382,000 against an Arab population of 376,000. [Text]*[Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Sep 85 p 2 TA]*

New Chief Ordnance Officer — Brigadier General Moshe Qedar is to take over today as the Army's new chief ordnance officer. He replaces Brigadier General Toveya Margalit, who is leaving the Army. [Text]*[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Sep 85 TA]*

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Meets With DFLP's Hawatimah

JN171911 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] In Algiers, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has received a delegation of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] led by Nayif Hawatimah. The meeting revolved around the Palestinian situation and problems in the Palestinian arena, particularly in Lebanon. Nayif Hawatimah stressed the need to abrogate the Amman agreement and to adhere to the Arab Fes plan.

LIBYA

Minister Says Al-Qadhdhafi To Visit Moscow Soon

LD181758 Kuwait KUNA in English 1655 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] London, Sept 18 (KUNA) — The foreign minister of Libya 'Ali al-Turayki believes putting an end to Iraq-Iran war has become a difficult issue in view of the multi parties involved and the emergence of new factors in that conflict. In a statement to *AL TADAMUN* magazine the minister said there are no indications of practical moves to end the war which is going into its sixth year.

Al-Turayki stressed that the Soviet Union has an important role to play in Mideast policy. He also believes that the Soviet Union has nipped American political arrogance the world over. The Libyan official said his leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will shortly be visiting Moscow.

Al-Qadhdhafi Terms Arab Summit 'Tranquilizer'

LD191016 Kuwait KUNA in English 0936 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 19 (KUNA) — Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi Thursday rejected the mission by an Arab fence-mending committee, assigned by the recent Casablanca extraordinary Arab summit to reconcile inter-Arab differences, and brushed aside an impending Arab summit in Riyadh next November as a tranquiliser which will fail to tackle fundamental issues.

In an exclusive interview published here today by *AL-QABAS* newspaper, Al-Qadhdhafi described his country's relations with Kuwait as very clear with nothing to disturb them and praised Kuwait's independent decision and role in a region faced by world rivalry. Interviewed in Tripoli, the Libyan leader renewed his call for an Arab confederal unity to be chaired alternately by Arab heads of state and warned that rebellion, chaos and revolt would spread in the Arab homeland if his plan for Arab unity failed to materialize. "There are only two options," Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said, "either to impose full Arab unity by force before this nation faces extinction or we sit to work out the unity plan according to the prevailing circumstances."

He believed that the best way to achieve unity is by attaining complete integration which can guarantee advancement of what he labeled as "dwarf" Arab states and charged that opposition of the concept stems from "persistence to hold to (government) seats." Warning against the present trend of substituting statehood for nationhood, Al-Qadhdhafi branded regionalism as the serious threat to pan-Arabism and called for clear separation between religion and politics.

Libya's strongman rejected current efforts by an Arab three-man committee, headed by Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, to patch up inter-Arab differences ahead of an upcoming Arab summit in Riyadh next November, saying that existing differences are political and fundamentally irreconcilable. Al-Qadhdhafi maintained that Arab summits are mere 'tranquilisers' which fail to address substantial issues or Arab disputes.

Asked on a planned visit to Libya by the committee to clear up the Arab atmosphere, Al-Qadhdhafi said that the point in question is a national one and not one of borders, adding "once the Arabs are united, there will be no problem, but there is no chance for reconciliation." He also sounded skeptic over the next Arab summit conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, saying that present Arab rifts were too great to warrant a successful outcome.

Regarding the dispute with Tunisia, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that Tunisian labourers had taken part in Libya's five-year development plan, started in 1981 and ended this year, and indicated that Tunis was aware of their return, but has failed to rehabilitate them. He disclosed that the wife of Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba, Waseela, and some Tunisian ministers had contacted Tripoli asking for the continuation of the press campaign and expulsion of Tunisian workers in order to maintain pressure against the government of Mohamed Mzali. They even asked for a radio station, he said, to use in opposition to the Tunis Government, but Libya failed to respond "since we are not interested in their internal struggle."

Turning to the Gulf contact between Iraq and Iran, Al-Qadhdhafi described the war as one between the U.S. camp and those against it and said that Libya "can not fight alongside King Husayn of Jordan, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Saddam Hussein, who are fighting an American war."

The Libyan leader called in conclusion for developing the Gulf Cooperation Council into a federal state to fill the vacuum in the Gulf Region and head off the dangers of further escalation in the Iraq-Iran war, including prospects of foreign intervention in the region.

Al-Turayki Confers With African Envoys

LD171441 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison conferred with the African ambassadors accredited in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah this morning. During this meeting an exchange of views was made on a number of questions that concern the

African countries, further strengthening the bonds of cooperation and friendship relations existing between the Jamahiriyah and the African countries in all fields, and international issues of mutual interest. The secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison briefed the African ambassadors on the Jamahiriyah's point of view which calls for supporting the African liberation movements and for a firm confrontation with the racially discriminatory regimes in the south of the continent.

The ambassador of the People's Republic of Benin and dean of the African diplomatic corp expressed, on behalf of the African ambassadors, their thanks and appreciation of the Jamahiriyah's efforts for the sake of supporting the African liberation movements and for the assistance it rendered in confronting the drought through which the African Continent had passed.

The ambassador of Benin, on behalf of the African ambassadors, conveyed the African heads of states' congratulations to the brother leader of the revolution and to the Arab Libyan people on the occasion of the new lunar year, wishing them every progress and prosperity. The ambassador of Benin highly appreciated the important role played by the Jamahiriyah during the international encounters and conferences for the sake of defending the causes of the African man, his freedom, and dignity. The policy of the Jamahiriyah, he said, enjoys high consideration with the African presidents and peoples, being a policy that serves the freedom and dignity of man and supports the oppressed everywhere.

JANA Editor Comments on Al-Baz' Visit to Tunisia

LD171419 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The JANA political editor commented on the recent secret visit of Usmah al-Baz to Tunisia offering the Egyptian regime's assistance to Tunisia against Libya and coordination with Tunisia in this respect. This is what he has to say: We warn the Egyptian regime to put an end to its plots against the Libyan people. He stressed that this regime will pay the price dearly for continuing in its plots.

The political editor added that the Egyptian regime is pursuing the same course defined by the defunct Al-Sadat and the deposed Numayri, a matter that affirms that its end will be similar to theirs, and it will meet a similar destiny. The JANA political editor explained that the Egyptian regime is suffering from isolation for commiting pan-Arab treason and the cardinal sin. It is trying to utilize this opportunity to break the siege of isolation. He stressed that the existing bonds between the Jamahiriyah and Tunisia are too strong and too big for Al-Baz or others to be able to exploit this opportunity in order to undo the regime's isolation.

The JANA political editor also said that we in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, will continue the work of isolating this untouchable regime as long as it persists in its treason and disdain and its recognition of the enemy, and until it faces its logical end. Usamah al-Baz will not change the end or destiny of this regime.

Tunisia Ready To Resume Relations With Egypt

LD181914 Tripoli JANA in English 1736 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Paris, Muharram 3, Sept. 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Tunisian Government is signalling its willingness to resume relations with the Egyptian regime, reported *AL-USBU' AL-ARABI* magazine quoting sources in the Tunisian capital. The above Paris-based magazine added that Tunisia will take the first opportunity to have its relations resumed with the oppressed Egyptian capital, or at least will keep the door open for the resumption of these relations.

News disclosed recently say that visits to both the oppressed capital and Tunis were exchanged between officials of both Tunisian Government and the Egyptian regime and that concentrated contacts were made between the two sides shrouded in complete secrecy.

MOROCCO

France Announces Rescheduling of Part of Debt

LD182205 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The French minister of finance announced today that Morocco's West European creditors (?belonging to) the Paris Club have accepted the rescheduling of an important part of the Moroccan Government's debts. The French minister did not give any figure in this respect but he explained that the repayment period will extend to 9 years with a 4-year grace period. Some authorized sources say that agreement was reached among those creditors in Paris on the rescheduling of the sums which became due for payment at the start of this year, in addition to a significant part of the Moroccan debts due for payment during the current year and in 1986. It is worth mentioning that the IMF agreed last Friday to grant Morocco loans totalling $318 million. At the same time it expressed satisfaction at the way in which Morocco is behaving in order to control the economic problems facing it.

MAURITANIA

Three Loan Agreements Signed With France

AB171810 Paris AFP in French 1114 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Nouakchott, 17 Sep (AFP) — France and Mauritania have signed three loan agreements amounting to Fr5.5 million, it was learned from official sources in Nouakchott. The first agreement, for Fr1.5 million, concerns agricultural research in the palm tree areas, the second, for Fr3 million, is for water projects in small urban centers, and the third, for Fr1 million, is to support French medical teams in Mauritania and to develop the country's medical laboratories.

The agreements were signed on Monday in Nouakchott between Jean Bellivier, French ambassador to Mauritania, and Mohamed Salem Ould Lekhal, Mauritanian minister of planning and territorial development.

SUDAN

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Ugandan Letter on Ties

JN171450 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Sep (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has received a written message from the chairman of the ruling Military Council in Uganda. The Ugandan foreign minister conveyed the message during a meeting with Gen Siwar al-Dhahab this morning in the presence of Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub.

In a statement to SUNA after the meeting, the Ugandan foreign minister said that the message relays the desire of the Ugandan Military Council chairman to strengthen ties of friendship and existing historical, cultural, and economic relations between both countries. The Ugandan foreign minister noted that he briefed Gen Siwar al-Dhahab on developments in Uganda and efforts being exerted by Ugandan authorities to contain the situation and restore peace and stability in the region.

In his statement, the Ugandan foreign minister said that the ruling Military Council consists of representatives of all warring parties and that the Council of Ministers consists of representatives of political forces in Uganda. He said that all parties are working in complete cooperation to achieve stability and contain the problems in Uganda. The Ugandan foreign minister arrived in Khartoum yesterday evening on a short visit.

Army Command Issues Communique on Garang Message

JN181827 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sept, 18. (SUNA) — The People's Armed Forces General Command today issued a communique pointing out that the Garang's message had been delivered by armed group loyal to Sudan's People Liberation Army [SPLA] to commander of Nasir garrison, but did not mention the date of the delivery. The communique went on to say that after the delivery of the message the garrison's commander asked the SPLA group to withdraw from Nasir town to guarantee the dispatching of the message to Khartoum but Garang's forces refused to respond to the commanders request and attacked Bor town, Upper Nile. The communique said that after John Garang's forces refused to withdraw from the area it supported its position and deployed its troops around the garrison benefiting from the cease fire situation preventing the message from being sent to Khartoum. [as received]

The message will not be sent unless Garang forces withdraw or the Armed Forces will be compelled to send it by other ways the communique said. The communique said that Garang forces are exploiting ceasefire and Garang is still massing his forces in (Yarol), (Gardoud), (Rank) and other places to attack the unarmed citizens.

North, South Groups Call For Numayri Extradition

JN181535 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Sep (SUNA) — The masses of South Darfur Province, represented by their political and unionist forces, have sent a cable to the Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum in which they expressed their indignation at and rejection of the Egyptian Government's stand on the extradition of the deposed murderer, Numayri. In another development, the grouping of the national forces in Shandi, Northern Region, both trade unions and parties, took part in a great march yesterday morning in which all trade unions, parties, and students also participated. The march was in response to the call of the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Homeland.

The march proceeded along the streets of the city of Shandi until it reached the office of the assistant governor of the southern area of Shandi. A memo was then delivered to the commander of the northern district and the assistant governor of the southern area to be passed to the Transitional Military Council and the Council of Ministers. The memo condemns the Egyptian regime's disregard of the Sudanese people's abilities and values.

SPLA Attacks Gordon Kong Radio Statement

EA181943 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Following the statement broadcast over Radio Omdurman thepast few days and which has been imputed to Siwar al-Dhahab's militia commander Gordon Kong Chuol, a statement has now been released by Lieutenant Colonel William Nyuan Bany, member of the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] High Command and SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] Executive Committee member and zonal commander of Western and Central Upper Nile administrative areas. The text of the statement is as follows:

It should be made known to the Sudanese public that the statement broadcast by Radio Omdurman recently and alleged to have originated from the traitor and stooge Gordon Kong is totally unfounded. These are the statements being made in despair by a defeated traitor who has lost all hopes of implementing the criminal designs which are being dictated upon him by those who back him. The despondency of Gordon Kong is quite understandable especially after the elimination of his boss William Abdullah Chuol.

It is absolutely unthinkable that the SPLA-SPLM that fights for the sake of the Sudanese masses and their welfare could become an instrument for killing, terrorizing, and forcibly dispossessing citizens of their property in the manner Gordon Kong alleges. The release by the SPLA of prisoners of war it seized from among government soldiers stands as complete proof that the conduct the movement is being accused of is totally incompatible with its way of doing things.

There is no doubt that the Sudanese people can still recall the recent decision of the SPLA High Command by virture of which a number of prisoners of war were set free and handed over to the commander of the Army garrison at Nasir in the middle of this year. Although the SPLA-SPLM takes great pride in this noble, patriotic, brotherly, and humanitarian gesture, it regrets to note that the prisoner-of-war status from which it had freed the former captives has been perpetuated by the military government, which has allowed the released prisoners of war to remain virtual detainees at Nasir Army garrison through deliberately omitting to transport them out to their families and relatives.

The traitor and stooge Gordon Kong has four brothers currently living in the liberated areas of War Zone Number One.

Despite the movement's full knowledge of the relationship between the four and Gordon Kong, and notwithstanding the fact that Gordon Kong has offered the SPLA-SPLM violence without the least provocation, not only do his four brothers have anything to fear [as heard] from the SPLA-SPLM but they are fully entitled to enjoy the same protection afforded by the SPLA-SPLM to all citizens living in the liberated areas.

Because the SPLA-SPLM is struggling to dismantle the system of injustice and oppression and erect in its place justice and true equality, it strives to provide a life of complete freedom to all citizens, including Gordon Kong's own brothers Paul Chuol, (Bos) Chuol, Riek Chuol, and (Dak) Chuol.

It is none other than Gordon Kong Chuol, being backed with arms and money by the Khartoum government, who now accuses the SPLA of wantonly killing civilians who had taken the lives of innocent citizens in Fanjak, Ler, and the (Gaijak) areas of the Nuer, besides the lives of Anuak citizens, and murdered the trader Muhammad Ali, a peace-loving citizen, who, he claimed, was a member of the SPLA-SPLM.

The support given by the Sudanese Government to the traitor and stooge Gordon Kong does not surprise the SPLA-SPLM in the least, in view of the fact that government forces at Bor recently killed the acting commissioner (Michev) Alier (Makur) for no obvious reason.

This heinous crime and the murderous activities of the assassin Gordon Kong fall into one category and consequently explain the association between Gordon Kong and the government. The SPLA-SPLM hereby assures the government and Gordon Kong himself that it will give Gordon Kong — and very soon indeed — the same treatment received by the deceased traitor William Abdullah Chuol.

TUNISIA

Sfar, USSR's Zhuravlev Sign Trade Protocol

LD182153 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior, conferred this morning with Gennadiy Zhuravlev, first deputy minister of foreign trade of the USSR, who stated that the discussions dealt with the further development of economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. Zhuravlev noted that Mohamed Mzali has expressed his total satisfaction with the outcome of the Tunisian-Soviet talks which were crowned with the signing of a protocol on trade exchanges for 1986-90. Zhuravlev pointed out that this protocol will insure the further mutual development of trade relations during the next 5 years. He added that the prime minister has explained that the decision to strengthen bilateral relations falls within the framework of the joint desire to increase the development of the fruitful cooperation which exists in all fields in accordance with the spirit of friendship which has distinguished the countries' bilateral relations during the past 30 years. He announced that he has conveyed to Mohamed Mzali, in the name of the Soviet Government, his warmest wishes for the good health and happiness of Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and for the prime minister on the occasion of the new hejira year.

The minister of national economy, Rachid Sfar, and Gennadiy Zhuravlev, this morning signed a protocol regulating trade exchanges between the two countries for the next 5 years. Rachid Sfar has expressed the satisfaction of the Supreme Combatant's government, led by Mohamed Mzali, over the new dynamism which characterizes the trade relations between Tunisia and the Soviet Union. He expressed Tunisia's great satisfaction over the importance of this agreement with the Soviet Union, since for the first time such an agreement is worth $250 million, which is more than double the present volume of trade, Moreover, this agreement will result in a balance of trade; until no Tunisia had recorded a deficit phosphate fertilizers, including high-grade phosphoric acid, which will be produced in 1988, olive oil, at the rate of 4000 metric tons per annum; and textile products are the most important Tunisian exports to the Soviet Union within the framework of this program. As for Tunisian imports from the Soviet Union, they basically consist of machinery ammonia, sulphur, and timber.

Zhuravlev is leaving Tunisia at the end of a 1-week visit, during which time he acquainted himself with industrial development in our country. The Soviet guest has expressed his admiration of the progress achieved by Tunisia in both the economic and social fields.

ETHIOPIA

Trade Agreement Signed With Cuban Delegation

EA190059 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Oromo 1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Revolutionary Ethiopia and the Republic of Cuba have signed a 1-year trade agreement protocol today. The agreement, which was arrived at today, aims at strengthening and implementing the trade agreement of 1981 with particular reference to exchanges of quality trade goods and the preparation of exhibitions. Under the agreement the Chambers of Commerce of the two countries will exchange delegations and perform an important role by advertising the goods of the two countries. The agreement will also strengthen relations between the importers and exporters of the two countries. At a ceremony held at the Ministry of Foreign Trade meeting hall, the agreement was signed for revolutionary Ethiopia by Comrade Wolie Chekol WPE Central Committee Member and minister of foreign trade, and for Cuba by Comrade Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz, foreign trade minister. Comrade Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz has since left for home today after ending his four day working visit to revolutionary Ethiopia. The minister was seen off at Bole International Airport by comrades Wolie Chekol and F. Cabrera Gonzalez, Cuba's ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia.

SOMALIA

Intelligence Official Said To Defect to SNM

A182206 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Reports from the Central Command of the Somali National Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces say eight soldiers of the loyalist troops of the Siad Barre regime have defected to the SNM. They included two officers, Major Jama Ali Hasan, who was deputy director of the intelligence section of the Somali Democratic Republic Defense Ministry, and Lieutenant Ahmad Ali Hashi, a pilot of the Somali Air Force. The others included an inspector known as (Gantal), two soldiers who defected with an APC from the 2d Brigade of the 26th Division stationed at north-west region, and three privates from the 1st Brigade of the 26th Division of the forces loyal to dictator Siad Barre.

Defense Ministry Issues Statement on Rebel Raids

EA171226 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] A statement issued by the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Defense Ministry last night said that at 12:30 pm yesterday, four Abyssinian aircraft raided Abud Waq district in Ghel Gudut Region causing loss of life and other damage. In their bombing of the district, 17 civilians were killed and 15 others were wounded. They also destroyed 35 houses and the generator for the water well in that district.

Also at 12:30 yesterday, the Abyssinian enemy bombarded the village of Aley Badey in Northwest Region with artillery weapons. The statement adds that the Abyssinian aircraft that raided villages in the northwest and Awdal regions inflicted the following losses: In Goroye Awl 3 people were killed and 12 wounded and in Tug Wajaleh village 1 person was killed and 4 others were wounded. The Abyssinian enemy raids were bravely repulsed by the SDR Armed Forces.

UGANDA

Government To Resume Talks If NRA Compromises

EA181808 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and head of state, General Tito Okello Lutwa, has made it categorically clear that his government will be ready to resume the Nairobi peace talks with the National Resistance Army, [NRA] as soon as a positive indication is received from President Moi of Kenya, who is chairing the talks, that the NRA is prepared to reach a compromise. In a message to all peace-loving Ugandans, the general emphasized the need for both sides in the negotiations to genuinely show a spirit of compromise if the talks are to be fruitful.

He reaffirmed the government's commitment to the restoration of peace and security throughout the country by peaceful means. Towards this objective, he said, the government, through its Armed Forces, is exercising maximum restraint in dealing with unwarranted attacks of the nature experienced last week in Mbarara, Mubende and Kampala. Let me assure all peace-loving Ugandans, he added, that the only remaining guerrilla group with which we hope to conclude negotiations is the National Resistance Momement with its fighting wing the NRA.

Ever since the peace talks were adjourned in Nairobi nearly two weeks ago, the government has in an informal manner (?tried) with the help of friends and well-wishers to establish an atmosphere conducive to the resumption of the talks.

Gen Okello Lutwa commended President Moi and the people of Kenya for the sacrifices made to have the Kenyan head of state personally to chair the talks.

Finally, the chairman of the Military Council assured Ugandans that the governments call to all Ugandans in exile to return home still stands. All of us, he concluded, must unite to build a strong, peaceful and prosperous Uganda.

Democratic Party Statement Calls For Agreement

EA171122 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The Democratic Party [DP], one of the various organizations participating in the broad-based government in Uganda, has strongly urged the ruling Military Council and the National Resistance Army, NRA, in the interest of millions of Ugandans, to immediately resume the peace talks which were adjourned in Nairobi on Friday 6th Of this month. In a strongly worded

statement issued in Kampala, DP said it believes that both the Military Council and the NRA leaders have the capacity to come to an agreement and called on them to do so expeditiously. DP pointed out that delay in reaching a positive conclusion of the talks does not only adversely affect the administration and the economy of the country, but also increases tension in the country generally, and among the armed personel in particular, whereby rumors and relatively minor incidents can lead to and escalate into further fighting and bloodshed.

It emphasized that with a spirit of give and take based on goodwill on both sides, agreement can be reached. Following the de facto cease-fire that had lasted for over 1 month, the statement added that the DP views the recent activities, utterances, and incidents by both sides, culminating into armed clashes last week between the UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] and NRA forces at Kawenda and Mbarara as extremely dangerous developments detrimental to the peace effort. It stressed that unless leaders on both sides exercise maximum restraints and ensure that such incidents do not recur, the country will be plunged into yet another, if not wider, deeper blood bath.

DP reiterated that it is futile for any one side to believe that it can bring about and maintain peace in the country by military victory. DP reaffirmed its commitment to peace and said it will continue to do all within its powers to promote the peace effort, but will not be a party to or support any resumed armed conflicts.

The statement said that the DP is firmly of the view that Uganda's problems, past and present are political, not military, and that they can be solved politically not militarily. Throughout the last 5 years, DP has called upon those engaged in the armed conflicts to engage in dialogue for ending the violence as a prerequisite to achieving peace.

Mukono Area Residents Warned To Stop Looting

EA171203 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] A government official in Mukono has warned the residents of Ngogwe, (Ibuyigwa), and (Wakizi) subcounties, to stop looting and destroying properties of their fellow Ugandans. In a statement issued in his office this morning, the assistant district commissioner in charge of (Buyikwe) appealed to the people to maintain peace, law, and order in the country. He asked those whose properties are being looted or destroyed to report the people involved to Lugazi police station so that appropriate legal action can be instituted against them.

Anti-Obote Group Pledges Support for Council

EA171606 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Another group which was fighting the regime of Dr Obote in Eastern Uganda has pledged to cooperate with the Military Council in order to achieve peace and stability in the country. The chairman of the group, known as the Uganda Democratic Salvation Union, UDSU, Mr Rashid (Kimera), made the pledge at a conference held in Kampala today. He outlined a number of proposals to end bloodshed in the country. Mr (Kimera) emphasized that for peace to prevail in the country all citizens must participate actively in the affairs of the nation. He called for the creation of a national army.

CHAD

Dialogue With Tripoli Resumes After 2-Year Break

AB182055 Paris AFP in French 1356 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Paris, 18 Sep (AFP) — The recent resumption of "direct contacts" between Ndjamena and Tripoli, which was confirmed on Tuesday evening by Mr Ahmad Allam-Mi, the Chadian ambassador to Paris, a year after the signing of the Franco-Libyan disengagement agreement, follows a 2-year break in dialogue between the two capitals. It was learned recently from reliable sources in Paris that President Hissein Habre met an important Libyan personality during his visit to Rabat on last 16 and 17 June and that an official envoy from Ndjamena has visited Tripoli of late. The last known contacts between the two governments dates as far back as 1983: a Chadian delegation visited Tripoli in March 1983 and at the beginning of April a Libyan delegation, led by Colonel Radouane (the officer in charge of the expeditionary force in Chad until he retired) went to Ndjamena. A few days later, Mr Idriss Miskine, the then Chadian foreign affairs minister, announced the "suspension" of dialogue between the two capitals, which notably centered on Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's offer to recognize President Hissein Habre's regime in exchange for the creation of an Islamic republic by Ndjamena in Chad.

According to Ndjamena, which affirms that it accepts the principle of an eventual meeting between President Hissein Habre and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the ball is now in Libya's court. The Chadian authorities insist that the meeting be held on "neutral ground." Some "friendly countries" — Gabon and Morocco, according to reliable sources — are working in this direction, Mr Allam-Mi confirmed.

This desire for dialogue with Tripoli is in line with the policy preached by President Hissein Habre which, according to Ndjamena, has always sought means for understanding with Libya. But the Chadian authorities doubt Tripoli's sincerity, since they consider that Libya is preparing for war. In fact, Ndjamena stresses that Libya has consolidated its military presence in northern Chad over the past few months by notably completing the construction of the Ouadi-Dum airport (150 km northeast of Faya Largeau) where large Libyan transport planes have already been landing. Libya's occupation of over 500,000 square km of Chadian territory (according to Ndjamena) remains the key issue for President Habre's regime to resolve before the achievement of national reconciliation process which he considers to be well under way.

While affirming its desire to resume dialogue with Tripoli, the Ndjamena regime also hopes to receive from France the necessary material assistance to counter the "Libyan threat" and appeals to the international community, especially to France, to assist Chad.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Seriche Bioko Pays Visit to Yugoslavia

For reportage on Prime Minister Christino Seriche Bioko's visit to Yugoslavia, including his meetings with Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, and Radovan Vlajkovic, president of the Presidency, see the Yugoslavia section of the 18 September Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, and subsequent issues.

ZAIRE

Parliament Official Returns From IPU Conference

AB181830 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1330 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 18 Sep (AZAP) — Bomandeke Bonyeka, second deputy speaker of the Legislative Council, returned to Kinshasa today at the end of a 12-day official mission to Ottawa, Canada, where he participated in the 74th conference of the Interparliamentary Union from 1 to 8 September. This conference, he told AZAP, recorded a very high participation of several countries and it was very positive. During the deliberations, the participants adopted three resolutions. The first concerns the creation of awareness among all peoples on the need to reduce external debts. The second recommends that the decolonization process which was initiated over 40 years ago should end, while the third calls for actions aimed at safeguarding the youth.

BENIN

Civil Aviation Agreement Signed With UNDP

AB171832 Parakou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] An agreement was signed this morning in Cotonou at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation [MAEC] with the United Nations Development Program [UNDP] for the completion of a development project of the national civil aviation. The signing ceremony took place between the UNDP local representative, Mr Alain Doss, and Comrade El Hadj Amzat, the director general of MAEC who signed for our country.

BURKINA FASO

Talks on Security Held With Ghanaian Delegation

AB190851 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Comrade Thomas Sankara received a Ghanaian delegation yesterday afternoon. The delegation, which comprised Major (Asakye Agyema), deputy director for national security and leader of the delegation, and Captain (Koljo), was accompanied by His Excellency Keli Nordor, Ghana's ambassador to Burkina. After the audience, Comrade (Agyema) talked to the press about the subject of his talks with the president of Burkina Faso:

[Begin recording] [(Agyema) in English fading into French translation] In fact, it is not possible to give details on the contents of our talks with the president of Burkina Faso because our talks touched on security matters concerning Ghana and Burkina. As you know, security matters are not treated publicly. But I can tell you that Ghana and Burkina constitute one and the same country now. We want our enemies to know that any attack against Ghana is an attack against Burkina, and any attack against Burkina is an attack against Ghana; that is essentially the significance of my visit.

[Unidentified reporter] As you remember, retaliatory measures were taken recently by Ivory Coast against Ghanaian nationals resident in that country. What arrangements have been made and [words indistinct]?

[(Agyema)] This is not the first time we have faced such a situation. You know that in 1983 we were confronted with the massive return of over 1 million Ghanaians expelled from Nigeria and we successfully coped with this disastrous situation with such courage that the whole world was surprised. What we, Ghanaians, believe is that our country and its neighbors are brotherly countries and that in our region every African can live freely in any other country. We have the right to stay and live in any country in the region. If our neighbors do not see things the same way, they are free to do whatever they wish, and to expel Ghanaians. We are prepared to welcome any expelled Ghanaian. You would like to know what consequences such a situation has on Ghana now and what measures we are taking to receive the returnees? Well, remember that we have already received over 1.5 million Ghanaians who had been brutally sent back to Ghana. In fact, this was a subversive move aimed at bringing about the downfall of the regime. But we showed that we could receive such a large number. So 10,000 persons would pose no problem to us.

[Reporter] Faithful to a consistent policy of pan-Africanism, Jerry Rawlings's Ghana is providing home to 200,000 drought and hunger victims from Niger, Mali, Burkina, Chad, and Ethiopia. What is their status in Ghana?

[(Agyema)] First of all, I want to correct a mistake; perhaps I misrepresented things, but it is a mistake. These people are not refugees. They are Africans. As such, we receive them in Ghana like at home and we make every effort to integrate them into the Ghanaian society. We give them work. We have designed a long-term scheme aimed at completely integrating them into Ghanaian society so that they will feel at home. They are Africans and are at home.

[Reporter] Lastly, would the Ghanaian envoy tell us how his country viewed Burkina's position at the recent Entente Council's extraordinary summit held in Yamoussoukro.

[(Agyema)] As a Burkinabe, you know well what matters are discussed at such meetings. With regard to President Sankara's attitude and the way in which he (?and his delegation worked) at the meeting, it was quite natural since Comrade Thomas Sankara is a revolutionary. He did his revolutionary duty and behaved as such at the summit. It is regrettable that we are not a member of the Entente Council. But if we were, we would be able to support President Sankara at such debates and talks where he is often alone to defend his views. Ghana could thus have stood by his side, endorsed and strengthened his revolutionary position within that body. [End recording]

GHANA

Bilateral Cooperation Agreement Signed With FRG

AB182138 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The annual bilateral negotiations between the FRG and Ghana ended in Accra today. At the end of the negotiations, a formal record was signed by the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, for Ghana, and the leader of the 5-member economic delegation from the FRG, Dr (Priez Woolf). Under the agreement, the FRG will this year provide an amount of DM31.5 million for financial cooperation while another DM15.27 million will be made available for technical cooperation.

Speaking at the function, Dr Botchway stressed that with the introduction of the economic recovery program, a decline in the economy has been arrested. He said, however, that there is still a lot more to be done. Dr Botchway announced that the government is in the process of planning a medium-term plan which will be subjected to debate at the grass-root level from which much opinion will be gathered to enable the government to know what to do. He thanked the FRG for her tremendous assistance in the ongoing process.

The leader of the FRG delegation, Dr (Woolf), expressed the delegation's appreciation for the bold steps being taken by the government to solve its economic problems. He said the impact of the new investment code will depend on its practical application. He pledged the FRG's continued support for Ghana and hoped relations between the two countries would be strengthened.

Armed Forces Stage Military Exercise in Kumasi

AB172235 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The military exercise code named "Operation Cutlass," involving troops in the northern sector of the country, began today at the Kumasi airport. It involved three officers and 140 men. One officer and 30 men from the Airborne Force at Tamale were dropped in parachutes from an Air Force plane, while the rest provided them with ground protection. The paratroopers, who landed in seven batches, were dropped from 360 meters above ground level.

Speaking to the troops at the airport after their landing there, the force commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, observed that the country has traveled a long way from the 31st December up till now. He said during the period, the military has made progress in the quality of its officers and men. Gen Quainoo said in spite of their achievements so far, there is still much to be done by the forces. He stated that the exercise is meant to test their combat readiness and to determine how fast the troops could be mobilized to destroy counterrevolutionary elements.

The force commander observed that an enemy would always attack its opponent's weakness. He said 2 weeks ago an exercise was carried out in the Volta Region to ensure that forces are tough and ready to meet any aggression. He commended the participating groups for their prompt responses to the call for the exercise.

LIBERIA

LAP Releases List of Nominees for Elections

AB171755 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The Liberian Action Party, LAP, has released a list of its nominees for the forthcoming general elections. The list, which was formally released during a press conference at LAP headquarters in Monrovia today, also includes the presidential and vice presidential candidates of the party, (Jackson F. Toweh) and Counsellor Emmanuel S. Kromah. According to the list, those nominated as senators for Montserrado County were Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, who is serving a 10-year jail sentence, and Major (E. Klanes), Sr, while some names were released for the House.

Johnson-Sirleaf Barred

AB182120 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Justice Minister Jenkins Scott says one of the territorial nominees for the Liberia Action Party, LAP, Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, will not be allowed to contest the forthcoming general elections. Speaking at a press conference today, Minister Scott said he will shortly recommend to SECOM [Special Elections Commission] to drop Mrs Sirleaf's name from the list sent in recently by LAP because, as he put it, Mrs Johnson-Sirleaf has been found guilty of criminal offence against the state. He said under the law of Liberia, nobody found guilty of committing criminal offence is allowed to contest in any elections. The justice minister, however, regretted the action but stated that such a party as LAP with several legal experts would have known better rather than allowing such a mistake. He said Mrs Sirleaf will only be allowed to contest the election only when granted a presidential clemency.

SECOM Returns Documents, Surety Bond to LPP

AB181756 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The Special Elections Commission, SECOM, has returned to the banned Liberian People's Party, LPP, all registration political documents. They include LPP's surety bond of more than $100,000 and a manager's check in the amount of $50,000 and those of the party's articles of incorporation. The documents were delivered today to the treasurer of the banned LPP, Mr Bangali Fofana, by the registrar general at the SECOM, Mr (Budd Ally). According to Mr (Ally), he was ordered by the chairman of SECOM, Ambassador Emmett Harmon, to return LPP's political documents in keeping with the mandate of the Interim National Assembly.

Board Probing Students' Arrest Submits Report

AB162250 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] The 8-man special board set up recently by Head of State Doe to investigate the arrest of 14 students near the Russian Embassy has recommended that 5 of those arrested be released from further detention. The board's recommendation was contained in a 5-page summary and recommendations submitted to Head of State Doe today in the Executive Mansion by members of the board chaired by ambassador at large [words indistinct]. Those to be released from further detention are Renner Yorke, Lyndon Famabandie, Lucy Fall, Abraham Fall, and Isaac Kemah. According to Press Secretary Patrick Kommeh, the board in its findings established that the students visited the Soviet Embassy [words indistinct] for venue and orientation forms on the 1985 youth festival scheduled for Moscow, the Soviet Union.

Regarding the arrest of the students, the board said facts obtained during the investigation indicated that they are militant and have been extremely active among their colleagues. The board therefore recommended that government give serious

thought to their future by holding the opportunity whereby they could be informed through being strongly admonished against engaging in such unwholesome acts, or allowing themselves to be used by dangerous forces. The board also in its findings said it found it difficult to believe that the reasons for the invitation was to [words indistinct]. It was, nevertheless, revealed during the investigations that there was a private talk held between the students and staff members of the Soviet Embassy. This, therefore, the board said, [words indistinct] that the activities of the students went (?beyond) that of (?official) nature.

Dr Doe, in response, thanked the board for the manner in which they conducted the investigation and assured them that he will carefully study the recommendations submitted to him [word indistinct] his timely action.

Karpeh Disputes Report on Paper's Closure

AB170018 Monrovia ELWA Radio in English 2000 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] The minister of information, the Honorable Carlton Karpeh, has reacted to a news report carried by ELPM [as heard] last evening, when ELPM Radio host and journalist Rufus Darpoh said that the *DAILY STAR* had been closed down after its publication because all of the journalists and associated workers were former employees of the *DAILY OBSERVER*. Minister Karpeh described the statement as completely false and explained that the *DAILY STAR* had been first opened under the ownership of two Lebanese nationals, contrary to customs and regulations of Liberia that aliens are not permitted to own or operate national commercial newspapers.

Minister Karpeh further explained that after the ownership of the newspaper, the *DAILY STAR*, had been purchased by Liberians, whose documents satisfactorily proved beyond all doubt that they were not (brought in?) for the Lebanese nationals, license has been granted to the *STAR* to resume publication. Minister Karpeh said as Mr Darpoh had not consulted him before the broadcast last night, he regarded the report as an error, but one which he pointed out, could cause unnecessary hard feelings, and, therefore, he was making the correction in this public manner.

MALI

Traore Holds Discussions With Sahel Secretary

AB171352 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Early this afternoon, General Moussa Traore, general secretary of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the republic, received the executive secretary of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control of the Sahel [ICDCS], Brah Mahamane, who was accompanied by Anne de Lattre, head of the Secretariat of the Sahel Club. Among various issues discussed at the audience were the development of the situation in the Sahelian countries, the coordination of the assistance granted ICDCS countries, and the implementation of the restructuring measures taken to make the committee more efficient. Also present at the audience were Lieutenant Colonel Issa Ongoiba, minister of agriculture, and Mohamed Alhousseini Toure, permanent secretary at the Presidency.

Minister Hails U.S. Economic Reform Grant

AB181934 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Excerpts] An agreement involving $18 m[illion] ...illion CFA francs was signed this morning bet[ween] ... and the United States at the Hall of Finance. The agreement, which was signed by the minister of finance and commerce, Mr Dianka Kaba Diakite, and the American ambassador to Mali, Mr Robert Ryan, Jr, has come to consecrate the launching of the economic reform program undertaken by Mali. First, we hear Mr Diakite, who expresses his joy in participating in this economic program.

[Begin Diakite recording] I am very happy in having been able to sign this morning the agreements by which the U.S. Government is making available to the Malian Government a grant of $18 million to finance an economic reform program. In fact, the U.S. Government announced at the end of 1984 its intention of proposing to the U.S. Congress the setting up of a 5-year program, endowed with a sum of $500 million meant to support a limited number of African countries in their economic recovery efforts. The Congress approved this proposal during the preparation of the 1985 budget, and allocated a sum of $75 million in this regard.

Vice President George Bush confirmed during his recent visit to Mali the choice of Mali among the four African countries selected for this program. Your Excellency the Ambassador, this aid from your government is a symbol of the support of your country to the structural adjustment efforts being pursued by the party and Government of Mali, under the high authority of the secretary general of the Malian People's Democratic Union, UDPM, president of the republic, General Moussa Traore, to correct the (?present) financial and economic imbalance affecting our country. The economic reform program over which we have met this morning was conceived by various Malian cadres from different ministries in close collaboration and with the technical assistance of the professional organizations and experts of the U.S. Agency for International Development. To all of them, we hereby express our gratitude.

It is important to recall that this program which will be executed over a 3-year period, starting from the signing date of these agreements, comprises mainly the following stages: fiscal reform; reduction of manpower in the civil service, through a system of incentives for voluntary retirement; equipment and service. The fiscal reform should lead to a simpler financial system, more equitable and better equipped to assimilate the growth of the private sector, and the creation of outlets. [Passage indistinct] Workers of the public service and certain categories of workers in state corporations who would voluntarily decide to leave the public service to enable the budget to effect the reallocation of resources in favor of expenses, investments and materials, would benefit from the following incentives: retirement compensation of 4 million CFA francs for employees in category A, 2.5 million

CFA francs for category B, and 1.7 million CFA francs for category C. Lastly, service equipment, mainly data processing material, will be made available to the technical services of the Ministry of Finance and Commerce, also in the framework of the program. [End recording]

In reply to the finance minister, the U.S. ambassador, Mr Ryan, Jr, expressed his great satisfaction with the signing of such an agreement, thus concretizing the visit of Mr George Bush.

NIGERIA

Government Releases Group of 31 Detainees

AB182158 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Another group of 31 detainees, including three expatriates, has been released by the Federal Military Government. Those released include an industrialist, Chief M.M. Igbochwuku, Major D.E. Bele Okpage, Alhaji Lawal Buka, and a former minister in the defunct civilian administration, Mr John (Kadia). Mr (Kadia) will, however, forfeit a house in Abuja to the Federal Government. Sixteen others released are also to refund various sums of money to the government. The three expatriates, Cham Sawakamale, Iran Ofakas, and Naresh Chadmani are to be deported immediately.

The minister of information and culture, Lieutenent Anthony Ukpo, who announced this in Lagos today, said the release of the 31 detainees is in line with President Ibrahim Babangida's pledge to set free all detainees who have been cleared.

Panel for Reorganization of NSO Sworn In

AB181745 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The 4-man panel set up to reorganize the Nigerian Security Organization [NSO] was sworn in in Lagos today behind closed doors. The ceremony was performed by the chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe. Speaking with newsmen after the ceremony, the chairman, Alhaji Umaru Shinkafi, said the government had decided that the panel should sit in camera because of the nature of its assignment. He described as enormous a review of the security system of a nation like Nigeria, saying he could not say the magnitude until the panel has begun its assignment. He, however, said institutions which have responsibility for the security of the nation should demarcate areas of such responsibility without one running into exclusive areas of others.

Committee Set Up To Review Countertrade

AB172218 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The names of members of the committee of investigations into countertrade were also announced today by the federal government. The chairman is Professor Ojetunje Aboyade, a former vice chancellor of the University of Ife. Other members are Colonel Lawrence Umaroge, Rashid Gbadamose, and Hayford Alile of the Nigerian Stock Exchange. Dr C.C. Chima of the Ministry of National Planning will serve as secretary.

As part of its terms of reference, the committee will examine the origins of, rationale, and propriety of the handling of the various countertrade arrangements entered into by the government and determine if they were in the public interest. It will determine whether any public officer abused his office by benefitting from or enabling any other person to benefit unjustly from the countertrade arrangements. The committee will advise the government on the need or otherwise to continue with countertrade and the procedure for terminating existing arrangements if found not to be in the public interest. It has 6 weeks from the date of its first sitting to submit its report.

Minister Assures Adherence to OPEC Rules

AB182320 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The (?purchase) price of Nigerian crude oil has been equated to the official market price of the commodity for [word indistinct]. In addition, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC, will henceforth guarantee $2 per barrel to all oil producing companies as embodied in the price formula. The minister of petroleum resources, Professor Tam David-West, announced this at a meeting with chief executive of all producing and marketing companies in Lagos. He expressed delight that world oil market was picking up once more after an all-time glut and was optimistic that it would be more firm in the days ahead. The minister gave the assurance that Nigeria would not violate any of the rules of OPEC if they affect the production ceiling. Companies should, however, ensure that the country did not produce a barrel of oil less than her quota.

SIERRA LEONE

Parliament Ratifies Cultural Agreement With CSSR

AB181650 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Parliament yesterday ratified an agreement on cultural cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. The agreement was signed in Freetown on the 11th of January 1984.

Introducing the motion of the government to the effect, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Abdul Karim Koroma, stressed that the agreement was an instrument to guard the bilateral relations between the Governments of Czechoslovakia and Sierra Leone. He observed that the act was aimed at finalizing and strengthening the already cordial relations between the two countries on a nonpolitical line. Mr Karim Koroma informed the House that the agreement was for 5 years and due for renewal every 2 years thereafter.

Supporting the motion, acting first vice president, Mr Francis Minah, who is also attorney general and minister of justice,

observed that the agreement was economically viable to the country considering our economic position in terms of government grants. He recalled government's concentrated efforts in generating foreign exchange to pay for students' grants abroad and stressed that the pact will help train our young men and women where government is constrained. The provisions of such an agreement, he maintained, are in the best interest of the country.

Earlier, the leader of the House, Mr Sam Smith, announced the (?specialized) select committee which comprises committees of (section), business, standing order, [words indistinct], public account, and the supplementary financial provisions committee. Parliament was adjourned sine die.

ANGOLA

Defense Ministry Communique on RSA Operation

MB181950 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Communique issued by the Ministry of Defense in Luanda on 18 September]

[Text] Contrary to what the South African racists want everybody to believe, the bombings on 17 September were not directed against the Namibian patriots who are fighting as part of SWAPO against the heinous apartheid regime, but were directed against our military units which are marching toward UNITA's main base in Jamba. At that moment, our military units were located in the Mavinga region, in Cuando Cubango Province, 255 km from the southern border and 180 km from the border with Zambia.

As was already reported, the FAPLA forces have already killed a South African medical officer named (Castel) in the Cazombo region of Moxico Province, which is 755 km from the southern border of Angola. In Cuando Cubango and Moxico Provices, there are no SWAPO bases and thus this invasion is aimed only at saving the UNITA puppets, who are unable to face the FAPLA forces.

Today, 18 September, at 0700 there were new air violations over Mavinga by two Mirage aircraft. Lately there has been an increase in air violations in Cunene Province. Yesterday from 1745 to 2020, the South African Air Force flew over FAPLA positions at Mulongo, (Mussa), and northeast of Quiteve, 190 km inside Cunene Province.

In addition to these bombings and air violations, the South African military units are readying themselves for a direct confrontation with our troops in Cuando Cubango Province in face of UNITA's inability to halt the offensive of our troops. Thus the Buffalo Battalion, which is equipped with armored cars and transport vehicles of the Buffel type, cannons, and rocket launchers and was previously located in the Savate region, 65 km from the southern broder of Angola in Cuando Cubango, is now 15 km south of Mavinga and ready to enter the fight against our troops which are operating in this area. In addition, we are watching the massing of about (?5) South African battalions near Position 1 in Ruacana, Position 3 southwest of Caluaeque, and Position 19 south of Namacunde.

The South African Air Force bombing raid on 17 September near the Mavinga area killed 6 FAPLA soldiers, wounded 105, and destroyed 12 transport vehicles and other vehicles. Despite the aggressiveness of the South African racists in support of the UNITA puppets, the glorious FAPLA forces are determined to continue the battle until the UNITA puppets are annihilated. The struggle continues! Victory is certain!

SWAPO's Nujoma, Others React to RSA Raid

MB181324 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The most recent invasion by the South African Army against the People's Republic of Angola, which began yesterday with the violation of the country's airspace by the South African Air Force, has provoked strong protests by the international community.

A spokesman for the French External Relations Ministry announced in Paris that the French Government regards the current South African invasion against Angola as a true affront to international law. This stand is shared by the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil. In a message addressed to his Angolan counterpart, Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs Olavo Setubal said that the invasion of Angola that began yesterday is a flagrant and unacceptable violation of the sovereign rights of Angola.

An AFP report from The Hague, cites the Netherlands as having stated that it openly disapproves of this new South African invasion. Government sources approached by AFP in that city said that the invasion indicates how urgent it is to finda solution to the question of Namibia, a country used as a springboard by the South African Army to launch systematic attacks against the People's Republic of Angola.

Western military experts have published an assessment of the invasion which began yesterday, and stated that it is designed to help UNITA, which is being confronted by an impetuous offensive by the Angolan Armed Forces. In Johannesburg, Leon Cook, an official of the research body, South African Institute for International Affairs, has warned that this invasion is intended to help UNITA. The South African press itself has published assessments pointing out that the invasion coincides with the stepping up of the offensive actions launched by the Angolan Armed Forces against that group.

ANGOP says that this new South African military incursion into Angolan territory serves to confirm the recent denunciations made by the Angolan Government over the concentration of large numbers of troops on the Angola-Namibia border over the past weeks. ANGOP also denounces the fact that UNITA armed bandits are being infiltrated by the South African Army into southern areas, where South African troops have apparently withdrawn.

It will be recalled that in a communique released in Luanda, the Ministry of Defense of the People's Republic of Angola had denounced the violation of Angolan airspace yesterday by 18 South African Mirage and Canberra airplanes. These aircraft carried out massive raids against FAPLA positions involved in offensive actions against UNITA, some 19 km from Mavinga toward Kazombo and Jamba base. The new violations have already been confirmed by the South African authorities who once again used the old argument of pursuing SWAPO.

Sam Nujoma, leader of this nationalist organization which is struggling for the independence of Namibia, told AFP that there were no SWAPO armed groups in the regions where the South

African Air Force launched the attacks. On the contrary, Nujoma said, there are Namibian civilian refugees in the area who have fled from Pretoria's segregationist policy. He also described as yet another propaganda maneuver the recent statements made by General Viljoen, chief of the South African Armed Forces, according to which SWAPO is preparing new military operations from Angolan territory against objectives in Namibia.

It is to be assumed that the concentration of South African troops on Angola's southern border and yesterday's invasion are designed to help UNITA, which has been suffering heavy defeats in the east and south of Angola. We recall that in a matter of only 45 days in Moxico Province, the UNITA armed bandits suffered more than 1,000 dead and lost large quantities of war materiel. The dead include a South African soldier and one of UNITA's main leaders, Colonel (Tembe Pembe).

Commentary Claims RSA Diverting World's Attention

MB181520 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 18 Sep 85

[ANGOP commentary: "Pretoria Challenges Again"]

[Text] The South African racist regime, facing an unprecedented internal, political, and economic crisis on the one hand, and the target of vehement condemnation from the international community on the other hand due to its international terrorist policy in southern Africa, is trying to draw the attention of international public opinion away from these facts. This, in turn, has created a climate of tension in the region. Therefore, last Monday, South African regular forces, including the well-known Buffalo Battalion, supported by helicopters and Mirage aircraft unleashed a new act of aggression against the People's Republic of Angola, a sovereign and independent state. The new aggression, with unforeseen consequences, confirms the recent denunciation made by the Angolan Government about the massive concentration of South African troops along the Namibian-Angolan border, and at the same time shows once again the inflexibility and dishonesty of the Pretoria regime in its search for a negotiated solution to the conflict in southern Africa.

Once again, General Constand Viljoen, the chief of staff of the South African Armed Forces, tried to justify this new military incursion with the old argument of pursuing SWAPO guerillas inside Angolan territory. These were most likely the same guerillas pursued by the South African special commando unit when they tried to sabotage the Malongo oil installations in Cabinda Province while Pretoria was announcing to the world that they were withdrawing from Angola. It is useful to recall that the leader of that ill-fated mission, Captain Petrus du Toit, captured by the Angolan defense and security forces, said that if the Malongo sabotage had been successful, the credit would have gone to the UNITA armed forces, a group armed, trained, and financed by Pretoria and operating under the South Africa strategic and operational supervision.

Thus, we are not surprised to note that this act of aggression is occurring when UNITA is reeling under the offensive by the Angolan defense and security forces, which are intent on totally eliminating that armed group. Thus, if this new military South African aggression is intended to divert the attention of the international community away from the internal crisis affecting the apartheid regime, this aggression is also to help the UNITA bands which are facing extinction.

Leon Cook, head of the South African Institute for International Affairs, a research organization with headquarters in Johannesburg, said that this invasion is intended to prop up the UNITA guerrillas because it coincides with the offensive of the Angolan defense and security forces to annihilate the puppet bands. Thus, everyone can see that the excuse given by the South African authorities, that they are pursuing SWAPO guerrillas, can not mislead international public opinion with respect to the means and objectives of the South African authorities in southern Africa. The recent ministerial conference of the Nonaligned countries in Luanda has identified South Africa and its followers, supported by the American Administration, as the ones responsible for the present explosive situation in southern Africa. Other factors such as apartheid, racism, and, state terrorism were also identified as the causes for the present explosive situation in the region. The decision of the Nonaligned countries in Luanda on this aspect is similar to the ones made in Addis Ababa at the 21st OAU summit held last July, and in Maputo at the Frontline States meeting held last Sunday.

It is clear that this new aggression by South Africa against the People's Republic of Angola is not only a threat to its sovereignty and independence, but also a new challenge to the international community, mainly to those peoples who arestruggling for peace and the harmonious progress of mankind. Through the rejection of any excuses offered by Pretoria regime for this aggression, the international community must wage concrete actions to pressure South Africa into ending any military adventures in southern Africa.

UNITA on Soviet Aircraft Bombing Population

MB191234 (Clandstine) Kup in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1200 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Free Land of angola, 19 Sep (KUP) — Napalm and toxic bombs are being used by the Soviets against the population.

Soviet aircraft have bombed hospitals, day nurseries, leprosariums, and farming centers on the 50th day of the largest offensive carried out by the Soviets, Cubans, and the MPLA against the areas controlled by UNITA. This has been disclosed in a war communique issued by the Strategic Operational Command — COPE — on 16 September.

The communique, which is signed by General Savimbi, supreme commander of the UNITA armed forces, adds that, quote, the Russians have succeeded once again in testing the West with impunity.

The areas in question were bombed with napalm and toxic bombs by SU-22 Antonov-26 and MIG-23 aircraft, says the communique.

The communique ends by saying that those crimes must not go unpunished. Foreign journalists have taken photographs of such aircraft which have been sowing death in southeast Angola.

LESOTHO

Justice Swears In Jonathan as Prime Minister

MB181216 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The president of the Basotho National Party, BNP, Dr Leabua Jonathan, was today sworn in as the prime minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho by the chief justice, Mr Justice T.S. Contran, before his majesty the king.

Present at the ceremony at the royal palace in Maseru were judges of the high court, the speaker of the National Assembly, members of parliament, and civil servants.

Ministers of Dr Jonathan's new government will be sworn in at the palace at 1230 this afternoon.

New Ministers Sworn In

MB181718 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Fifteen Lesotho cabinet ministers and 16 ministers of state in different ministries were sworn in by the chief justice, Mr Justice T.F. Cotran, before his majesty, King Moshoeshoe II at the royal palace in Maseru today.

The list of Lesotho Government ministers sworn in today stands as follows:

Dr Leabua Jonathan, who was sworn in earlier today, is prime minister and minister of defense and internal security. He is also minister of constitutional affairs. The minister of transport and communications is Mr Seth Matete, and the minister of state in that ministry is Mr (Utloa Mohane).

The minister of finance is Mr Peete N. Mpeete, while his minister of state is Mr (Alexis Ntjahi). The minister of cooperatives and rural development is Mr Francis Matholoane, while the minister of state in that ministry is Mr (Jobo Mohape). The minister of health is Mr Nathaneal Mkuatsana, and the minister of state at the Ministry of Health is Mr (Mpho Mathela). The minister of the interior and chieftainship affairs is Mr Patrick Lehloena, while his minister of state is Mr (Masopa Katiso). Mr Vincent Makhele is minister of foreign affairs, while Mr (Mojoedisane Tsita) becomes minister of state in that ministry.

The minister of information and broadcasting is Mr Desmond Sixishe, while his minister of state is Mr (Khontoe Pafudi). The minister of water, energy and mining is Mr Matete Majara, while the minister of state in that ministry is Mr (Zachariah Peeko).

The minister of justice and prisons is now Mr Moupo Mathaba, while the minister of state is Mr (Bernard Makheta). The minister of agriculture and marketing is Mr Phatela David Makoae, and his minister of state is Mr (Tseolemao Matsepe). Dr Ebenezer Malie is now minister of education, sports and culture, while (Matsole Photo) is his minister of state.

Mr Lekhooana Jonathan is the minister of works, while Mr (Stephen Ghabo) is minister of state for works. The minister of trade, industry, and tourism is Mr K.T.J.M. Rakgatla, and Mr (Poso Makheta) is minister of state in that ministry.

Mr Evaristus Sekonyana is minister of planning and economic affairs, while Mr (Khetso Lestoka) is minister of state in that ministry. Minister of labor and manpower development is Mr Molaiye Lephole, while Mr (Ranthako Radintsi) is his minister of state. Mr (Cyprian Thakabana) is minister of state in the office of the prime minister.

Opposition Parties React to New Cabinet

MB190946 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2218 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Maseru, Sep 18, SAPA — The five opposition parties in Lesotho have condemned the appointment of a new cabinet today by the prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, as "playing one of his political gimmicks."

A statement issued by the leaders of the five parties said Dr Jonathan had appointed a cabinet which was heavily loaded in favour of members of his family, sons-in-law and fathers of sons-in-law.

"It is the hallmark of nepotism and remuneration of pals when the country has degenerated into a household of Leabua where he dispenses favours like Father Christmas on a cold wintry night in London," the statement said.

The opposition leaders accused Dr Jonathan of being fully controlled and manipulated by the Communists of North Korea, mainland China and Russia whom he previously hated.

The statement said: "It is high time we tell Leabua that his high-handed actions may no longer be allowed to continue. He has since regarded and played with the affairs of this country as if they were a clay toy in his hands."

MOZAMBIQUE

Interior Minister Meets With RSA Minister

MB191141 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Mozambique's interior minister, Colonel Oscar Monteiro, and South Africa's foreign minister, Roelof Botha, are meeting today in the town of Komatipoort, on the border between the two countries. The talks are to center on evidence of South African violations of the Nkimati Accord as presented to Mr Botha by President Samora Machel on Monday.

Others in Mozambique delegation include the security minister, Colonel Sergio Vieira, and the second deputy interior minister, Teodato Hunguana.

Armed Forces Kill Four 'Armed Bandits'
MB181158 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The Mozambique Armed Forces-FPLM killed four armed bandits in a recent operation carried out in the Laue River region on the boundary dividing Gurue and Ile districts in Zambezia Province. According to our Zambezia correspondent, a group of 30 bandits were detected while attempting to reconnoiter Laue Region in search of refuge to escape the FPLM.

MNR 'Terrorists' Kill Seven, Wound Three
MB181156 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The MNR terrorists killed seven people and wounded three others in southern Mozambique on Monday night. The killings took place when the terrorists attacked a small farm in the Boane District, which lies between Maputo and the border with Swaziland. Six of the dead and all of the wounded were workers on the farm. The seventh man who died was a member of the local militia who was killed while trying to defend the farm workers.

NAMIBIA

21 Prisoners Transferred From RSA Jails
MB181210 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1030 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Windhoek Sept 18 SAPA — Twenty-one SWA/Namibian political prisoners and detainees have been transferred from South Africa to Windhoek prison, the transitional cabinet said today.

There were no more SWA/Namibian prisoners left in South African jails, the cabinet said in a statement. The cabinet also referred to a SWA/Namibian Assembly resolution that provided for the cabinet to consider the release and the granting amnesty to the prisoners after they had been returned to the territory.

New Political Party Formed by Muyongo
MB182004 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1938 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Windhoek, Sep 18, SAPA — A new political party in SWA/Namibia was formed today under the leadership of a former SWAPO vice-president, Mr Mishake Muyongo.

The new party, the United Democratic Party [UDF], was founded after a merger of the Caprivi African National Union of Mr Muyongo, and the Caprivi Alliance Party, which was a member party of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA].

Mr Muyongo told a news conference in Windhoek that a UDP application for membership of the DTA was being considered.

Asked whether the new party favored the secession of Caprivi from the rest of SWA/Namibia, Mr Mutongo said "the Caprivian people must decide" on the issue.

He claimed 86 percent support for the UDP among the estimated 40,000 people living in the strategic Caprivi strip in north-eastern SWA/Namibia, which shares international boundaries with Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government Admits Nkomati Accord Violations
MB190453 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2347 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 18, SAPA — The South African Government conceded tonight (Wednesday) that the Nkomati peace pact with Mozambique had been violated from the Republic's side since the accord was signed last March but said the violations were "technical" and that they were aimed at promoting peace talks between the Frelimo government and RENAMO rebels.

According to entries in a senior RENAMO officer's diary captured by Frelimo recently when the rebels' headquarters was overrun, the former deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, paid three clandestine visits to the Gorongoza base in the Mozambican bush.

The minister, Mr Pik Botha, also confirmed that radio communications between the SADF and the guerillas were set up, assistance given in the construction of an air-strip, S.A-Air Force supply-drops of mostly "humanitarian" aid made, and RENAMO field officers transported, once by submarine, in and out of Mozambique in an effort to re-establish the peace talks which collapsed last October.

"On the face of it, the Nkomati accord was violated, but it is important that President Samora Machel did not allege the South African Government contravened it" Mr Botha told journalists in Pretoria at an extensive briefing following three days of urgent consultations with the Mozambican Government.

The minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, confirmed and elaborated on details of contact with RENAMO since March 16 last year but added the Frelimo government had been aware of this.

"But the response from them was, don't bother us with technicalities...just get them (RENAMO) to come to us (for peace talks)" he said.

Mr Botha and his senior officials related events surrounding the Nkomati accord crisis, starting at the weekend when the foreign minister was invited to visit Maputo personally for "important" talks, relating to the peace pact with President Machel.

At the meeting with President Machel at his residence in Maputo, Mozambique had confronted Mr Botha with brief Portuguese entries made in an "everyday" South African diary by a senior RENAMO official, A.J. Vaz, and detailing contact with South Africa from before the Nkomati pact until July this year.

General Malan said in parliament earlier this year that his government had supported RENAMO until the Nkomati accord was signed but that this aid had ceased afterwards.

Among the post-Nkomati diary entries translated roughly at the Maputo meeting and conveyed to Mr Botha were details of RENAMO meetings with SADF officers, arrangements for air supplies — including arms — from South Africa and radio transmitters for communication, details of senior guerillas' journeys to and from the Republic, and visits to Gorongoza by Mr Nel.

The Mozambicans had refused to part with the diary but "after strong representations" Mr Botha was allowed to take two pages and the translations back to South Africa, where he consulted the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, late on Monday night.

The president immediately ordered an urgent investigation into the allegations and the former chief of the Air Force, General Bob Rogers, and Dr J. Gilliland, currently director general of home affairs in the House of Delegates but also an expert on Air Force matters, were appointed to conduct it — with full access to records.

Mr Botha emphasised the Mozambican allegations were "rough translations" which could not be taken as accurate at this stage and that the Mozambicans had said they were still studying other documents siezed when Gorongoza was overrun, and that this could lead to further evidence.

Some of the diary entries were also "clearly false" when compared with the facts, he said.

This morning (Wednesday) the results of the "hasty and obviously not exhaustive" investigation by General Rogers and his partner had been presented to the foreign minister.

"The (Mozambican) allegations, in broad terms are correct and the Nkomati accord was violated," Mr Botha told journalists.

He emphasised, however, that the South African Government, specifically, had not as such contravened the peace pact with Mozambique although it appeared so "on the face of it."

"It is important to note that President Machel did not allege this," he said.

The investigation confirmed records of certain SADF night-time flights into Mozambique to either land and deliver supplies and humanitarian aid such as medicines, or to drop them by parachute, and to ferry RENAMO officers to and fro.

A RENAMO officer had once been picked up on the Mozambican coast by a South African submarine, Mr Botha confirmed.

SADF officers mentioned by name in the diary as being against the Nkomati Accord and the government's support of Frelimo had been personally questioned by the investigators.

"The officers concerned categorically denied what Vaz wrote," Mr Botha said, adding that the present whereabouts of Vaz were unknown.

The first visit to Gorongoza — in June this year — by Deputy Minister Nel had taken place without Mr Botha's knowledge, but Mr Nel had reported to him immediately afterwards, explaining he had feared the foreign minister would not allow him to go for safety reasons.

"He was right, I probably wouldn't have let him go," Mr Botha said. Mr Nel was last year given the task of bringing Frelimo and RENAMO to the negotiating table and was a kingpin in ensuing discussions.

In October last year, peace was imminent but negotiations collapsed just before an agreement was due to be signed in Pretoria and RENAMO declared it would intensify its guerrilla campaign.

Mr Nel's two subsequent visits to the RENAMO bush camp had been undertaken with the knowledge and approval of Mr Botha.

The foreign minister and General Malan emphasised the violations they had confirmed did not amount to contraventions by their government of the Nkomati Accord if its terms were closely read and strictly interpreted.

Contact with an[illegible]dered to RENAMO had been aimed at bringing th[illegible]e negotiating table again and at "softening" the[illegible]attitude.

[illegible]otha said RENAMO consisted of two factions — one fighting in the Mozambican bush and another in Portugal — and that there were differences between the two groups.

It had been necessary to have contact with RENAMO members in the bush in an attempt to reconcile the two factions and then attempt to engage them, as one, in peace talks with Frelimo in a "very complex situation."

Gen[illegible]ral Malan said during the briefing that although there were und[illegible]ubtedly members of the SADF who did not agree with the gove[illegible]ment's policies, the force's top structure had supported the Nko[illegible]ti Accord before it was concluded and actively promoted it afte[illegible]wards.

Mr Bot[illegible] said he had today (Wednesday) requested an urgent follow-up [illegible]neeting tomorrow (Thursday) with the Mozambican Government to inform them of the investigation's findings and discuss them, suggesting Komatipoort as a venue.

Talks With Mozambicans

MB190838 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0835 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 19, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, is understood to have met Mozambican Government ministers at the border town of Komatipoort this morning for urgent consultations on the Nkomati Accord crisis.

According to sources in Pretoria, Mr Botha will present the results of South Africa's investigation into Mozambican allegations that rebel RENAMO forces have been receiving aid from the Republic in contravention of the non-aggression pact.

The Mozambican allegations are based on extracts from a senior RENAMO officer's diary taken when Frelimo troops overran the rebels' Gorongoza bush headquarters last month.

At a briefing of journalists in Pretoria last night, Mr Botha and the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, conceded that "in broad terms" the terms of the accord had been violated, but said these were "technical" and had been aimed at promoting peace-talks between Frelimo and RENAMO.

Air Attack Launched Against SWAPO Command Post

MB181555 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1551 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Windhoek, Sept 18, SAPA — Security forces from SWA/Namibia had launched an air attack on the forward command post of SWAPO's eastern military area near Nehone in southern Angola, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today. Results of the attack were not yet known.

The SWATF said in a statement that the combined area operation against SWAPO in Angola, launched by South African troops and soldiers from SWA/Namibia, had already disrupted the organisation.

"A deserted SWAPO position has been found and indications are that these terrorists have beaten a hasty retreat," the SWATF said.

An arms cache was found about 30km into Angola yesterday afternoon.

Operations were continuing to search for SWAPO positions and forces, the statement said.

Troops in Angola Could Engage in Heavy Fighting

MB180751 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
18 Sep 85 p 1

[By Gary van Staden, political reporter]

[Text] The South African Defence Force units which crossed into Angola this week could become embroiled in some of the bloodiest fighting in 10 years between UNITA and the Angolan Army, sources in South Africa have said.

UNITA, the pro-western rebel movement of Dr Jonas Savimbi, is attempting to fend off a major Angolan army offensive against its positions in the South-Eastern province of Cuando Cubango.

This is the same province which the South African security forces entered this week, the sources pointed out.

According to reliable reports, the Angolan Army is closing in a pincer movement on the rebel positions with about 20 brigades involved in the attack.

The greatest threat is apparently from the south-west, where mechanised brigades of the Angolan army are attempting to drive a wedge between Jamba and Namibia.

Jamba is situated less than 200 km north of the Namibian border.

According to reports which emerged at the weekend UNITA is being hard-pressed to hold positions it "secured" five years ago. The recent arrival in Angola of MIG-23's — ultra-modern Soviet-built jet fighters — and MI-24 helicopter gunships has significantly altered the balance of power in Angola.

Slabbert Criticizes SADF Angolan Incursion

MB190920 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0910 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Cape Town, Sep 19, SAPA — Becoming embroiled in the civil strife of another country is "sheer madness," the leader of the official opposition and the Progressive Federal Party's defence spokesman, Dr van Zyl Slabbert, said in a statement in Cape Town today.

Commenting on the SADF incursion into Angola, Dr Slabbert said that if government policy was "that our conscripts must be prepared to die in UNITA's struggle against the MPLA government, I unequivocally condemn this.

"Is it government policy to intervene in the internal affairs of another country and through military assistance influence who foreign governments must be?

"If so, we stand defenceless before the world and have no right to complain when they intervene in our internal affairs.

"What exactly are we doing in Angola? How deeply are we involved in their civil war?"

These questions, Dr Slabbert said, could not be answered by civil servants at confidential briefings.

"They cannot be held accountable for the political implications of their actions.

"It is the government and particularly the minister of defence who have to publicly give account.

"Ever since the SADF has gone into Angola, I have been waiting for Magnus Malan to open his mouth and tell us what is going

on. Where is he? Let him get onto the box and answer one simple question: Is South Africa being taken for a ride again by this government?

"They lied to us on Angola in 1975; they lied to us on RENAMO in 1983; nobody believed them on the Cabinda raid and we were misled on Gaberone," Dr Slabbert said.

Nel Says West Must Accept Sanctions Aftermath

MB181900 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Deputy Information Minister Louis Nel took part in a satellite debate with the Australian minister of foreign affairs, Mr Bill Hayden, on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's television network.

[Begin Nel recording] I do not agree with the description of the situation in South Africa, but I would like to say this, I would like to add this: The world — the Western world — is busy with an immoral campaign agaisnt South Africa, without having done any research whatsoever into the probable consequences of sanctions on blacks in South and southern Africa. Mr Hayden has not done research, Canada has not done it, and America has not done it. And if you would have done that research, you in all probability would not have embarked on this course. The last point I want to make, Sir: It is also, to my mind, inexcusable that the Australian Government and the Western world have given no indication whatsoever that they are prepared to accept the disastrous consequences of their acts in applying sanctions against South Africa. We think that if you want to apply sanctions against South Africa to the deteriment of so many millions of black people, you must have... [change of thought] You must be man enough to face up to the reasonable and probable consequences of your deeds, and you are not doing that. [End recording]

Further Nel Comments

MB181426 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Akrikaans 1400 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The new deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel, has accused the Australian Government of siding with the banned ANC, and of promoting revolution in South Africa.

In a debate with the Australian minister of foreign affairs, Mr Bill Hayden, screened on Australian television today, Mr Nel said the Australian Government condoned violence by providing the ANC with offices and other comforts. He said the violence had begun in South Africa when the ANC had embarked on a strategy of destroying moderate black political and business leadership. This had led to more than 200 black moderates being murdered.

Mr Nel said the sanctions advocated by Australia and other Western countries were not conducive to peaceful reform. They would cause unemployment and misery, and contribute to further violence.

Buthelezi Meets Nickel, Praises Reagan Sanctions

MB181423 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Limited sanctions imposed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan have been described as evidence of his statesmanship. The description comes from the KwaZulu chief minister, Chief Buthelezi. Carmel Rickard reports from Durban:

[Rickard] Chief Buthelezi's remarks were made in Ulundi, when he met with the U.S. ambassador, Herman Nickel. The ambassador has just returned to South Africa, after over 3 months absence in protest by his country of certain South African Government policies. Buthelezi said that if President Reagan had imposed more stringent sanctions, which would have significantly hurt the South African economy, then South African President P.W. Botha would not have been able to push for the scrapping of the pass laws and other reforms. Buthelezi added he was grateful that Reagan had not taken steps which would have led to a white South African backlash and a scorched-earth policy.

He said he believed there was still time to prevent a race war in South Africa, but he warned that it was now what he called an 11th hour situation.

Orange Free State To Repeal Anti-Asian Law

MB190841 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0841 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 19, SAPA — Legislation keeping "Chinese, Arabs, Coolies and other Asians" out of the Orange Free State would be repealed in response to the Province's National Party Congress to this effect last week, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, announced in Pretoria today.

"The cabinet has decided to repeal Chapter 33 of the Orange Free State statute book which regulates the movement and settlement of various categories of people," he said.

This had been decided in view of the fact that "the principles of own communities, own townships, own schools and own cultural life, and an own identity are already enjoying full protection, inter alia, in terms of the provisions of the Constitution and the Group Areas Act."

Another reason was that "uniform legal provisions for all provinces will be conducive to constructive planning for the welfare of the Republic."

Mr Botha said the cabinet had also noted the fact that the National Party leadership in Natal was presently launching an action with regard to the corresponding situation in northern Natal, which is a remnant of the old Vryheid republic.

Supreme Court To Be Asked to Release Boesak
MB190535 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2132 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Cape Town, Sep 18, SAPA — An urgent application is to be brought in the Cape Town Supreme Court next week for the release from detention of the president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Dr Allan Boesak.

Dr Boesak's attorneys confirmed today that documents would be filed this week and the court hearing was expected next week.

Dr Boesak was detained at a roadblock on August 27, soon after he had announced plans for a march on Pollsmoor prison where Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader, is held.

Mandela Receiving Medical Treatment
MB171448 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1237 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Cape Town Sept 17 SAPA — Nelson Mandela, imprisoned leader of the banned African National Congress, is receiving medical treatment prescribed for him by a urologist, a Prisons Department spokesman said today.

But the spokesman would not say whether Mandela, who has an enlarged prostate gland and cysts on his liver and right kidney, was receiving treatment in hospital or prison. Mandela has been advised to have his prostate removed, according to his family.

The Prisions Department spokesman said: "Mr Mandela is receiving the necessary medical treatment prescribed by a urologist.

"The department considers it not ethically correct to speculate in the media on details of the medical diagnosis and treatment of a prisoner.

"The situation is positively under control and his family is fully involved."

ANC Official: More Civilian Deaths Inevitable
MB181646 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The director of information of the ANC of South Africa, Comrade Thabo Mbeki, says a greater number of civilians will inevitably die as the ANC continues to intensify the struggle for freedom and human decency. Comrade Mbeki told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, ZBC, today that the ANC will not kill white civilians in rataliation for the killing of blacks by police of the Pretoria regime.

He said more people had become conscious of the need to take up arms, and so far a large number of underground combatant groups are fighting together with the ANC military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe. The ANC director of information added that the struggle in South Africa is now becoming a people's war.

Comrade Mbeki said the recent talks between the ANC president, Comrade Oliver Tambo, and South African businessmen should not be seen as substituting the armed struggle. The talks, he said, were held to dispel the illusion that Botha is capable to control and can reverse the armed struggle. The ANC felt the businessmen could use their influence to tell Botha to yield to the demands of South Africa's black majority.

Comrade Mbeki welcomed the imposition of selective sanctions against Pretoria by the United States as a boost for all anti-apartheid forces. He said the selective sanctions limit shows assistance by President Ronald Reagan, but his so-called policy of constructive engagement has failed.

1 Wounded, 6 Arrested After Pretoria Violence
MB181624 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1620 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria Sept 18 SAPA — A black youth was admitted to hospital after being hit by a rubber bullet and six people were arrested after stonethrowing at a funeral in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, today, police said.

They said they had no knowledge of earlier reports that a policeman was badly injured when he was hacked with a panga or axe after chasing mourners at the funeral of four-year-old unrest victim Mitah Concilia Ngobeni.

According to police headquarters in Pretoria, the six were arrested after stones and petrol bombs were thrown at SAP members and private vehicles after the funeral.

Police Kill 2 in Continuing Unrest Violence
MB181739 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1736 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sept 18, SAPA — Following is SAP 7pm "unrest report," received at 7:30pm:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported today:

"In Atlantis coloured residential area, in the Boland, an SAP member was stoned by a group of coloureds. A man was arrested. In the same area, barricades were erected in a road. They were broken down by an SAP patrol. A coloured man was arrested in connection with this incident. A number of private vehicles were stoned by hooligans in this area.

"At Langa black residential area, near Cape Town, a private vehicle was gutted by arsonists.

"In Cape Town, police arrested 20 people when they gathered illegally near a police station.

"At Bishop Lavis, also in the western Cape, two coloured men were arrested for distributing inciting pamphlets.

"At Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, seven black men were arrested for intimidation. In the same area, a black man was arrested

when police fired rubber bullets to disperse arsonists who hurled a petrol bomb at a shop. This afternoon, police arrested fifteen blacks when they stoned SAP vehicles. A youth was injured and detained.

"In Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand], a delivery vehicle was destroyed when arsonists set fire to it.

"At Mhluzi and KwaNanzame, black areas near Middelburg in the eastern Transvaal, a delivery vehicle and a private car were damaged by arsonists. Police arrested two black men.

"At Valhallapark coloured residential area in the western Cape, SAP members on foot patrol were attacked with stones and bottles. They dispersed their attackers with shotgun fire. A coloured woman was wounded and arrested. In a similar incident in the same area, a coloured man was fatally wounded.

"At Elsies River, also in the western Cape, a large mob of coloureds stoned private vehicles and attempted to loot a bottle store. They were dispersed by the police. A coloured man was fatally wounded.

"In Mowbray, in the western Cape, police arrested twelve coloured males, part of a large group which attempted to steal a bus."

Violence Erupts in Pretoria, Port Elizabeth Areas
MB190648 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0627 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 19, SAPA — Here follows the unrest situation report for the period from 7pm last night to 8am today, issued to SAPA by the Public Relations Division of the SAP in Pretoria.

"Extensive damage has been caused by arsonists to buses, delivery vehicles, private homes and businesses in Atteridgeville near Pretoria, Duncan Village near East London, Kwa-Nobuhle near Uitenhage, Zwidi near Port Elizabeth and Langa in the Western Province.

"In Soweto [WWR] [Witwatersrand], a mob of blacks who were attempting to hijack a bus, dispersed when an SADF patrol arrived on the scene. There were no reported injuries or arrests.

"In Athlone in the western province, police arrested 4 coloured males for stoning police vehicles.

"In a similar incident in the coloured residential area of Elsies River, police arrested 2 coloured males during an incident in which private vehicles were stoned.

"In Kagiso near Krugersdorp, police arrested a black male and in Huhudi near Kimberley, 2 black males were arrested during incidents of stoning.

"In Kwa-Nobuhle near Uitenhage and Zwidi near Port Elizabeth, groups of blacks petrol bombed 2 buses. There were no reported injuries or arrests in either of the incidents.

"In Langa in the western province, police dispersed a mob of blacks looting a bottle store. There no reported injuries or arrests.

"In the black residential area of Ginsburg near King Williamstown, arsonists extensively damaged the development board centre.

"In Mpophomeni near Howick, police dispersed an illegal gathering using quirts and arrested 4 black males and a black female."

Two Die, Dozens Beaten in Cape Violence
MB190723 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2254 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Cape Town, sep 18, SAPA — Two people died and dozens were beaten and arrested during police action in the Cape Peninsula today.

A police spokesman said a 21-year-old man, Mr Ivan John Langenhoven, was killed by birdshot and a 28-year-old woman injured when a police contingent opened fire after being "attacked" in Valhalla Park.

"At 11.45pm, about 50 people stoned a police foot patrol," the spokesman said.

However, numerous local residents who witnessed the police action contradicted the official account.

They said the police unit had kicked down doors and beaten men, women and children inside houses or on the streets.

An 18-year-old boy was shot dead in Elsies River, and a 12-year-old girl was injured when, according to police, "about 100 people stoned private vehicles and attempted to attack a bottle store."

Police said they fired rubber bullets, pistols, and shotguns.

Mr Gerald Giose, an employee of the City Council Bathing Committee, who lives in Elsies River, said police "were moving like it was an infantry maneouvre when everything was quiet".

Youths interviewed said that as a group of children fled from police in Elsies River, they were caught at a fence.

As they tried to clamber over, a policeman opened fire, hitting an Elnor Primary School pupil known to them only as "Clive". They said he had been shot once in the head and twice in the back.

Another youth, identified as "Andrew" was also hit by gunfire and taken to hospital.

Valhalla Park residents said police arrived in the area when it was quiet.

"People were running away from the police who were beating everybody in sight. Ivan was also running but one armed coloured policeman told him to stand still," said one resident.

"He did so and the policeman lowered his gun. Then a white policeman came along and shot Ivan at close range in the hip. The boy lay there in his blood for about an hour. When help arrived he was already dead."

Mr Daniel Stone, father of Emily January, the 28-year-old woman injured by police fire, said his daughter had gone out of their Linda Street home to see what was happening when police were moving through the area.

"She went outside and the police shot her immediately," he said.

"We were not rioting or anything. Nothing was going on."

Not far from the spot in Elsies River where the 10-year-old boy died, Chanelle Cogill, 17, a Belhar Senior Secondary School pupil, and two high school friends were sitting on the wall in front of their house.

"These policemen came up to us and just started beating us all over our bodies. Then they yelled at us to get into the house but when we got off the wall they followed us into the yard and kept on beating us," said Chanelle.

The back of her legs and buttocks bore the marks of a severe beating.

"We weren't throwing stones or doing anything one could say provoked them," she said.

Several Elsies River and Valhalla Park residents — including elderly women who displayed welts on their backs, arms and legs — repeated similar accounts and expressed deep anger at what they said was a totally unnecessary exercise.

Mrs Jeanette Solomons, 69, of 34th Avenue, Elsies River, said police pointed a gun at her and said she would be shot if she did not go into her house.

She had been struck by a "sjambok" once on the back, she said.

Her daughter, Mrs Gwen Solomons, 37, was beaten repeatedly "from the front of the house to the back yard".

Both Elsies River and Valhalla Park residents said the police unit which moved through their areas consisted of about 20 black men, armed with sjamboks and dressed in brown khaki overalls with blue peaked caps, accompanied by a group of about eight white men armed with shotguns and dressed in police blues.

Residents said those taken into police custody in Valhalla Park on Tuesday and Wednesday were Sedick Diedrich, his brother Shahied, Raymond de Jonk, Raymond October, Raymond Hoedemark, I Kleinsmidt, Frans Fakier and Jerome Rosenberg.

Police confirmed the arrest of 37 people in actions throughout the Cape Peninsula today.

A police statement said there had been "no reports of sjambok-king in the western Cape" yesterday.

"If people feel they have cause for complaint we urge them to lay charges," it said.

Auto Plant Closes After Workers Reject Offer

MB171539 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Our East London representative reports that the Mercedes-Benz plant in the city was closed again today, after trade union leaders had rejected an offer made by management yesterday to reemploy 300 dismissed workers. The union leaders are demanding that the workers are reemployed without any conditions. The 300 were dismissed for disciplinary reasons 2 weeks ago. The remaining staff of 2,500 black workers then started the strike.

End Conscription Campaign Begins Fast

MB161944 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1851 GMT 16 Sep 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Sep 16, SAPA — The End Conscription Campaign [ECC] today began a nationwide, three week fast for "a just peace."

The fast — which will also be taken up in Johannesburg, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Grahamstown, Port Elizabeth and Stellenbosch — was launched at a public meeting at St Georges Cathedral Hall in Cape Town at 8pm tonight. Speakers have yet to be announced.

The fast will be led by Dr Ivan Toms, a Cape doctor, and Mr Harold Winkler, a student at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Both plan to fast until October 7, the first anniversary of the SADF's entry into townships, according to the ECC's press officer, Mr David Shandler.

The ECC's national cooordinator, Mr Laurie Nathan, said the presence of the SADF in the townships further polarised "our already divided society."

"It is in fact an effective declaration of war on the people living in those townships."

Lawyers Express 'Deep Concern' Over Police Powers

MB181039 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1017 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Sep 18, SAPA — The "deep concern" of South African attorneys about the wide powers the emergency regulations give to the police and Army was expressed to the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, yesterday.

The presidents of the Association of Law Societies, Mr G.C. Cox, and the Law Society of the Transvaal, Mr E.M. Southey, told the minister of their concern "regarding the inroads which have been made on the basic rights of the individual."

In a statement today, Mr Cox said the effect of the emergency regulations "is that an inhabitant of this country who has committed no crime can be subject to a humiliating and degrading imprisonment without any recourse to the law. If a mistake is made it is unlikely that the victim will receive any recompense."

Mr Cox pointed out that under the regulations "any person can be imprisoned if, in the opinion of a policeman, soldier or prison official, such imprisonment is necessary for the maintenance of public order.

"There is no requirement that any offence should have been committed."

He said the fact that a person has been arrested and imprisoned may not be disclosed to anyone, not even to the prisoner's family, without the consent of the minister of law and order.

While in jail the prisoner can and probably will be prohibited from writing any letters or receiving any visits from his family or friends and he cannot see his lawyer without the permission of the minister or of the commissioner of police.

If consent for a visit by an attorney is given, the consultation must take place in the hearing of a prison official.

Mr Cox said: "While in prison the prisoner may not have any reading matter other than the Bible or other religious books supplied by the prison authorities, he may not receive food parcels, he may not speak to other prisoners and he may not have a radio or tape recorder or musical instrument.

Furthermore, "if the prisoner sings or makes frivolous complaints or conducts himself in any other manner which is contrary to good order and discipline he can be punished. Punishments can include a whipping or solitary confinement on spare diet."

Mr Cox said the authorities have a full indemnity against civil or criminal proceedings unless it can be proved that they did not act in good faith.

State Gives Details of Case Against UDF Activists

MB190548 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2229 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Pietermaritzburg, Sep 18, SAPA — The leader of the ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo, had called for the formation of a United Democratic Front [UDF] for national liberation, it was alleged at the treason trial of 16 UDF leaders in Pietermaritzburg today.

In further particulars to the indictment, the state alleged Mr Tambo had also called in the UDF to allow the ANC to create, through a national liberation alliance, its own underground structures through which it could guide the UDF.

However, the trial of the 16 did not start because the defence lodged objections to the further particulars supplied by the state.

The judge-president, Mr Justice John Milne, heard legal argument on the particulars and is expected to give judgment on Friday.

At the start of the hearing the state announced it would proceed against the UDF leaders on a main charge of treason and two alternatives of terrorism and furthering the aims of an unlawful organisation.

This follows an earlier judgment by Mr Justice Milne to the effect that the state could not proceed on all the charges.

The state withdrew the remaining three alternatives charges of participating in terrorist activities, of furthering the objects of communism and of furthering the objects of the ANC.

In the further particulars discussed in court today, the state referred to a statement by Mr Tambo that the UDF was participating in the revolutionary struggle.

The state does, however, not know how many underground structures exist or when, where and how each of the accused allegedly became part of an underground structure.

The state also alleged the 16 were being used by the ANC to overthrow the South African Government by violence, and that the Transvaal and Natal Indian Congresses were committed to the aims of the Congress Movement and Congress Alliance.

The aim of these two organisations was allegedly to overthrow the South African Government by violent means, the state alleged.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

MB191018 [Editorial report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers are continuing to carry reportage and commentary on the state of emergency:

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 18 September comments in its editorial: "The trouble with South Africa's periodic military incursions into neighbouring states is that one has only the army's word for it that they are imperative. So again with the present invasion of Angola, the second in ten weeks." General Constand Viljoen has said there is "irrefutable evidence" of SWAPO activities and plans, but does not offer any convincing example, the newspaper says. "At least no one tries to pretend any more that the reassurances always satisfy all South Africans, let alone the rest of the world." One thing is not in doubt, it says, "military priorities seldom coincide with diplomatic ones," and "each new assault on neighbour states helps the sanctions lobby and increases the risk of concerted international action against South Africa. A key argument against this action is that economic sanctions will damage neighbouring states as well. The argument is sound. But it begins to ring hollow when South Africa is damaging its neighbours anyway." The government seems "at last to be beginning to understand that its own policy and actions have done immense harm," but if it is going to mend fences at home and abroad, then diplomacy will have to prevail over military goals at least occasionally, it concludes.

Gary van Staden reports in the same edition remarks by Progressive Federal Farty (PFP) leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert that "if the current trends continue in the townships for the next three or four years, even the ANC will find itself considered a middle-of-the-road sell-out." Slabbert warned a Rand Afrikaans University audience on Tuesday that "the anger, frustration, and militancy of black and coloured youth in the townships should not be underestimated." "There are young people in those townships who believe that they are on the point of victory, that all they have to do is carry on a little longer and they will succeed," Slabbert said. Slabbert said he believed the vast majority of South Africans of all colors believed in a middle road between revolutionary violence and right-wing repression, but added, "the talk of reform is taking second place in the townships to a belief that repression is increasing." He criticized the government for lack of clarity on such issues as power-sharing and citizenship.

In another report in the same edition, *THE STAR* says the Federation of South Africa Trade Unions (FOSATU) has released a statement condemning "acts of repression" that had been directed at officials of its unions. The statement said the acts included "the killing and detention of officials and death threats against them. It was important that the Government's repressive actions be exposed, said FOSATU, which blamed security forces and unknown organisations for the actions." In Empangeni, Natal, the death threats had been related to the consumer boycott in the area, the statement said.

" 'Sinister behavior' by the police could in some areas be a reason for the reluctance of people to come forward with what they term misconduct by security forces in the state of emergency," *THE STAR* reports in another article. The Rev Peter Storey and the Rev George Irvine, both of the Methodist Church, told the newspaper about a New Brighton man who made a sworn statement about misconduct recently and is today being suspected by his community of being a police informer. "This could be attributed, the clergymen said, to the way in which the police handled their investigation." The clergymen said the man filed a complaint about an alleged assault by security forces, and instead of going to the complainant's workplace to interview him, the police went to his home several times. As a result of the frequent police visits to his house, the man is now suspected of being an informer. "One can draw one's own conclusions from the facts about this insensitive and sinister behaviour by the police," the clergymen said.

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 18 September says in its editorial: "We cannot see what the church leaders who have called for a national stayaway on October 9 hope to achieve." "Although we do not doubt that many of the delegates who voted for the stayaway feel the need for repentance, mourning and prayer, we think they are very foolish to try and achieve this through a national stoppage. Employers and businesses cannot be expected to succumb to "religious arm-twisting" it says, and workers cannot afford to be penalized for not coming to work. "We see no reason why the country should be brought to a standstill for this or any other reason," it concludes.

In the same edition *THE CITIZEN* reports that the Association of Chambers of Commerce (ASSOCOM) has called on the clergy behind the 9 October stayaway campaign to modify their proposal by changing the day of prayer to a Sunday. Rocky Ridgeway, deputy president of ASSOCOM, said a stayaway, however brief, would severely weaken the ability of member-companies to maintain a high level of employment. ASSOCOM reiterated its committment to the reform process, however, *THE CITIZEN* reports, and "pledged their full support to facilitate a process of mediation and bargaining about the essential agenda to serve as the basis for subsequent negotiation about reform."

In another article in the same edition, *THE CITIZEN* reports: "Black business leaders yesterday appealed to the government to set up a special fund to assist black businesses hit by the continuing unrest. Sam Motsuenyane, president of the National Association of African Chambers of Commerce, led a delegation which met with Chris Heunis, minister of constitutional development and planning. Although the minister could give no commitments at this stage, Motsuenyane said after the meeting, the talks had been "promising." Motsuenyane said the black businesses in Natal had so far been the hardest hit, but that concerns in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand and Eastern Cape areas were also suffering.

Johannesburg's *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans (tentative) on 16 September in an editorial says an important condition of President Reagan's sanctions is that blacks should not suffer any hardship under them, and quotes the President as saying, "I want to encourage continued attempts by our government and private Americans to improve the living standards of black South Africans." While wishing to believe the President, the paper continues, we believe that he and many well-meaning Americans are not properly informed. His reaction to the reforms already introduced and in the pipeline convince us that he does not realize the extent or the importance of these. It concludes: "If President Reagan is really serious in his desire for peaceful change in the interests of the black people, there is ample opportunity to — without overstepping his sanctions measures — initiate actions which would provide more employment opportunities for blacks."

In another editorial the paper says, Sharpeville focussed the world's attention on the pass laws. Domestic black reaction, the paper continues, is of greater importance in terms of the President's Council recommendations that the pass laws be scrapped. "We believe that the majority of the blacks will see the scrapping as a positive breakthrough. If the government accepts the recommendations in the report, it should contribute to better relations."

In an interview with *DIE VADERLAND* reported in the same issue, the Soviet envoy to Lesotho, Mr Vladimir Gavrioushkin, told the paper that the USSR does not want to take over South Africa or any other country but, on the contrary, if the two countries could have ties, they would be able to cooperate in many areas. Asked if the Soviet Union planned violent revolution in South Africa, the envoy replied that Lenin, the founder of the Soviet state, had proclaimed that the Soviets would not export revolution, but Mr Gavrioushkin added that revolutions occurred in countries where certain conditions existed. Asked why the USSR had established an embassy in Lesotho in particular, the envoy replied that it was Soviet policy to have ties with all countries. He said that the USSR believes the policy of racial separation is the source of the current tension in South Africa.

But, he added, there are other areas of disagreement between the two countries, one of which is the delay in implementing Resolution 435 in South-West Africa and the linking of this issue with the Cuban presence in Angola. On relations with Mozambique, the ambassador said the signing of the Nkomati Accord was the sovereign right of Maputo, but "it is, however, easier to sign an accord than to carry it out." On the ANC and Nelson Mandela, he said "We not only support the release of Mandela, but also that of thousands of political prisoners in South Africa."

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 18 September editorializes on the hunger situation in the country: "Children queuing for a cup of soup and a sandwich have become a part of South Africa in 1985. People are talking about it. Some shake their heads in disbelief, shrug their shoulders, or shove the problem onto the state." While lauding the efforts of the many volunteers who have done much to reduce the suffering for the past many months, the paper warns of the problem of distributing the food being donated across the country, and welcomes the fact that the whole issue is now receiving the attention of the cabinet. "We would like to believe that the central committee will come up with a practical strategy soon which will bring the help to where the need is greatest."

In a second editorial, the paper says, "If one wishes to know about the Babel of variation in South Africa, one has only to look at the opinion polls. This group wants Nelson Mandela; Indians prefer P.W. Botha; some whites feel Chief Buthelezi is the man; there are Zulus who are perhaps closer to the UDF [United Democratic Front], and Dr Allan Boesak is surprisingly popular among blacks..."And now, continues the editorial, the ANC is demanding sole power. This flies in the face of South Africa with its great variety of emotional and interest groupings, its fears, its divergent ideologies and ideals. It ends: "For this very reason matters have to be discussed among adults, otherwise a power-hungry force will grab power — and then there will be no question of support. You will have to say yes, or else..."

Pretoria's *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 17 September says in an editorial that the creation of the Bureau of Information is a step in the right direction. Whether this move will succeed will depend on whether the principles of modern state information and liaison with the media and other institutions is applied. "The temptation to channel important information chiefly to what could be termed well-disposed sources should be avoided at all costs." The new deputy minister, Louis Nel, has a difficult task ahead of him, says the paper, but it believes he is man enough for the job.

In a second editorial the paper says, "The suspicions we harbored over the meeting between businessmen and the ANC's top leadership have been proved correct. In the end it was nothing more than an undeserved publicity breakthrough for Oliver Tambo and his people." But the event was not a total loss, it continues, because Mr Gavin Relly and his team brought back from Lusaka the true message of the aims of the ANC, which is that if Mr Tambo and his comrades take power here, it will be the end of the free market system. It adds: "Even though the ANC enjoys a measure of support at home, most blacks, we believe, prefer democracy. While leading businessmen's eyes have (hopefully) been opened regarding the real motives of the ANC, it is necessary that the government's reform option be given more support." Only then, it concludes, will the ANC's image be reversed.

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 18 September criticizes the refusal by the government to let its reporters interview Nelson Mandela and Zeph Mothopeng in prison. "Their stay in jail, their conditions and their opinions should concern South Africans before they concern anybody else. It would therefore be logical that if any journalist was allowed to see the, then the first would be a South African for a South African publication. That is, unless the motives for allowing visits are sinister." The government has let a British peer, an American law professor, a Baptist preacher, and two American journalists into Pollsmoor Prison. What could have been the justification, it asks, except to show the world that "this is really the year of change," that there is even access to Nelson Mandela — but not for the *SOWETAN*. "Journalists from abroad will not ask the questions that we would. We know the special concerns of our readers, Mr Mandela's countrymen," it concludes.

In the "Workers' Diary" column in the same edition, Joshua Raboroko says new problems have emerged for the next round of trade union unity talks. "A vital problem faced by the participating unions is that small unions must disband to merge with bigger ones before the November-December inauguration of the giant federation," he says. This requirement is contained in the draft constitution of the proposed federation. The second major problem is the absense of the Council of Unions of South Africa and the Azanian Confederation of Trade Unions from the talks. "Most unions regard their absence from the unity talks as vital because they maintain that without them, the federation will not be complete, especially because of calls made by international trade unions." Raboroko also notes in his column that the national strike by workers at three chain stores "could be seen in the light of threats by unions that 'an injury to one is an injury to all.' The workers went on strike after what the president of Federal Council of Retail and Allied Workers' Union, Mr Masilo Mpiti, calls 'racist and intransigent' attitudes of some white workers towards black workers."

The *SOWETAN* reports in the same edition that at least 62 workers from the chain stores who were picketing several stores in Johannesburg have been arrested by police. The Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria had confirmed the arrests and said the picketers "were distributing pamphlets while others boycotted the chainstores."

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 18 September says in its editorial that "It is becoming increasingly apparent that the state of emergency, partial or not, isn't working. More to the point, there appear now to be elements of contradiction in the authorities' handling of even the mildest form of protest that suggests desperation." The incidents involving school children are a case in point, the editorial says. "What possible justification can there be for the arrest of hundreds of children?" it asks. "That kind of response is playing into the very hands of those whom the authorities have every reason to want to discredit. It is sheer madness both because as a tactic it is counter-productive and because it offends ordinary decency." We accept that there are no simple solutions to the country's problems, the newspaper says, and that law and order must be restored, but "Pretoria's

impotence in both areas is manifest." "We need far-reaching and bold action from strong leaders, not a shuffle forward here and a step back there. And if we as concerned citizens cannot find that in the Nationalist cabinet, as seems increasingly apparent, we must broaden our vision and look elsewhere."

"The Progressive Federal Party is expected to keep a low profile at the launch of the Convention Alliance in Sandton on Saturday," Paul Bell reports in the same edition. "It is understood that about 150 people, including a broad spectrum of churchmen, business and black community leaders, individual organisations and others, will attend the first meeting." The movement has narrowed its purpose to a single objective, Bell reports, "support for the idea of a national convention to negotiate the country's constitutional future." The PFP leadership is keen to avoid giving the impression that the alliance is a "Prog Front," Bell says, and Slabbert will not chair the meeting. " 'This is not a merger, or the formation of a new political party,' a senior party source told *BUSINESS DAY*. 'Everybody will be maintaining their own political identity and that's the way we would want.' " Inkatha President Chief Mangosuthu Gatsha is expected to lead a delegation from his organization to the meeting, Bell says, but left-wing black organizations like the Azanian People's Organization and the United Democratic Front will not be attending.

In a column on the editorial page of *BUSINESS DAY*, Bruce Anderson asks, "In a world full of human rights basket cases, why should SA be singled out for censure? At least SA is going in the right direction: over the last decade, there has been a significant degree of reform; it is one of the few countries in Africa where the level of human rights has improved.""The vehemence of the international condemnation of South Africa could only be justified if there were an obvious solution to the country's problems, and its implementation were being prevented solely by the intransigence of the government," Anderson says. But the solution is elusive, he notes. "Most whites now accept — with varying degrees of enthusiasm — that all South Africans should enjoy economic and social equality of opportunity, and that there should be a significant degree of power-sharing. But here are difficulties, for the whole notion of power-sharing is a paradox: in the final analysis, however it is fudged, one group must have the casting vote," and most South African whites want to ensure that this stays in white hands. The problem is that there seems little likelihood that black South Africans will allow their aspirations to be constrained, he says. "The South African government is determined to uphold law and order and to retain control of the dynamics of change, but in the black townships we can see a classic revolt of rising expectations. Of course, this revolt will fail: the governemnt has a formidable coercive apparatus and the capacity to maintain a state of violent equilibrium almost indefinitely. But can one have real reform without a substantial measure of consent?" It is easy to understand why many blacks refuse their consent, he says. It is hardly surprising that the high-spirited young blacks should repudiate a system which has denied their human dignity. But there are strong points to the RSA, he says. It has "an almost free press, an independent judiciary, a parliament in which the opposition can criticise and question and a free enterprise economy. These are rare assets, especially in Africa: they should not be lightly thrown aside."

ZIMBABWE

Home Affairs Minister To 'Wipe Out' ZAPU

MB190824 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0815 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Harare, Sep 19, SAPA — Zimbabwe's minister of home affairs, Mr Enos Nkala, has said he intends to "wipe out" Mr Joshua Nkomo's opposition ZAPU party within the next few months and warned that the recent detentions of ZAPU officials were the "start of things to come."

"Let me assure the nation that the policy of reconciliation towards ZAPU has been withdrawn," Mr Nkala told the Senate yesterday.

"Nkomo should take note — in the next few weeks you'll be seeing fire."

The authorities had been picking up many party officials and whites who encouraged or participated in dissident activities, he said, adding: "We want to wipe out the ZAPU leadership."

"You've only seen the warning lights. We haven't yet reached full blast. The next few months will see us in top gear and ZAPU must be warned."

He wanted no pleas for mercy but only wanted encouragement to deal with "this dissident organisation," Mr Nkala said.

Mr Nkala was speaking during debate on the 143 million Zimdollars (R207 million) budget for his ministry.

He described as "painful" his decision on how to deal with ZAPU, but said: "The murderous organisation and its murderous leadership must be hit so hard that it doesn't feel obliged to do the things that it has been doing."

Mr Nkomo, whose passport is being held, has said he has been left in isolation by the detention of his party officials and personal aides. On Tuesday he was himself questioned by Harare police for one and a quarter hours.

Nkomo Detained

MB181439 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Zimbabwean chief opposition leader, Joshua Nlkomo, says he was detained by police yesterday. He says they questioned him for about 2 hours, before releasing him without being charged. Mr Nkomo says he was questioned about the document allegedly taken from his home.

Meanwhile diplomatic and political sources in Harare claim that members of the leading ZANU-PF party and also Nkomo's ZAPU party have been meeting to discuss a possible merger of the two parties. Sources say the last meeting took place about a month ago, and was hosted by President Canaan Banana. They

claim the two sides have come close to an agreement, but one of the sticking points is what to call the new party.

Mr Nkomo has refused to comment on the possible meetings, deferring to Robert Mugabe, who is still considering the proposals.

Radio Truth Views Alleged Secession Plot
MB170905 (Clandstine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The alleged plot for Matebeleland to secede from Zimbabwe and to set up an independent republic of (Muntokazi) sounds like another ZANU-PF ploy to besmirch ZAPU. It provides the ruling regime with an excuse to detain prominent ZAPU officials and their associates and to continue with the harrassment of the Ndebele nation.

There is no doubt that the Ndebele would like, and in fact deserve, a greater degree of autonomy. They have a long, rich culture and traditions of their own which they are anxious to preserve as they demonstrated in the last election. These people have no desire to be swallowed up in a party state and to be subjected to Shona domination over all facets of their lives.

There are sound arguments for giving the Matebeleland provinces a much greater degree of control over their own affairs, and allowing them to participate pro rata in central government, where they can voice their opinions on national issues.

A devolution of power is one thing, and is a practical and necessary proposition. A totally independent state, however, would not be a viable entity, even if it were a possibility on other grounds. Morever, the military resources at the disposal of the state are far too [word indistinct] and widespread to allow any attempt at secession to succeed. ZAPU and its sympathizers are well aware of these facts, which is why we do not believe that any serious thought has been given to such a project. The five white former members of the Internal Affairs Ministry and the ZAPU councillors in the Bulawayo City Council are men who would not allow emotion to over rule their sense of judgment. They would not indulge in a fanciful exercise that had no hope of coming to fruition.

This brings us back to our opening comment that the whole affair is a ZANU-PF frame-up. They are determined to smash ZAPU and to force the Ndebele into the Shona mold. In the long run, the tactics will not work. There are too many examples on this continent and elsewhere to illustrate that tribal and national affinities are far too strong to be permanently subjugated.

'Bandits' Kill Two ZANU-PF Members 15 Sep
MB180536 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Two people were shot and killed by bandits in separate incidents on Sunday after being accused of supporting the ruling party. The two are comrades (Melusi Sibanda) of (Changani) and (Ellison Ncumbo) of Sinaika village, communal lands. Comrade (Ngumbo) was ZANU-PF's chairman for Mbambamba branch.

Government Condemns RSA Incursion Into Angola
MB180504 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Zimbabwe has condemned racist South Africa's ground and air raid against the People's Republic of Angola yesterday. A government statement issued today criticized the Pretoria regime for violating the territorial integrity of Angola and called on the Botha administration to end its belligerent activities against neighboring countries.

The statement notes that South Africa's latest situation provides clear evidence that Pretoria is bent on intensifying the campaign of military hostility against the entire southern African subregion. The government has appealed to the international community to condemn South Africa's unprovoked aggression in the strongest possible terms.

Zimbabwe has also demanded the immediate withdrawal of racist South African troops from Angola and full South African compensation for damage inflicted during the invasion. The government has called for comprehensive international sanctions against the Botha administration and expressed Zimbabwe's unwavering solidarity with the struggling people of Namibia and South Africa.

Foreign Minister Urges Pressure
MB180810 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, has called upon the international community to join hands in demanding an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the racist South African troops from Angola. Comrade Mangwende said the apartheid regime has illustrated its continuing arrogance and contempt of international opinion and the norms of international law.

In a statement which was issued yesterday, the minister reiterated the government's call to the international community, particularly the Western nations, to take decisive action towards the imposition of mandatory economic sanctions against the evil apartheid regime.